

Pierce Penileffe

HIS SVPPPLICATION

to the Diuell.

Barbaria grandis habere nihil.

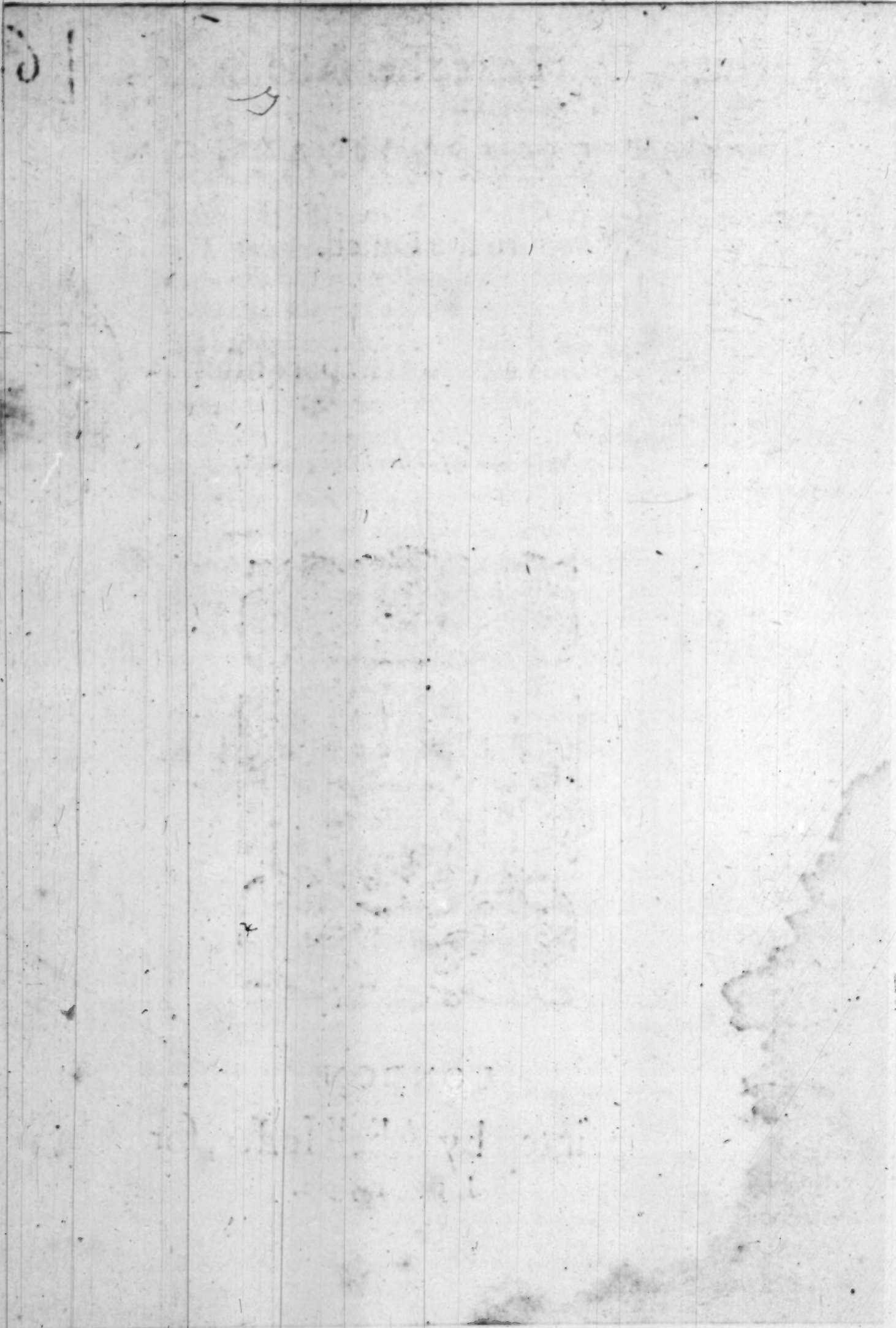
Written by *Tho. Nasb*, Gent.



LONDON,

printed by Abell Ieffes, for

I. B. 1592.



A priuate Epistle of the Author to the Printer.

Wherein his full meaning and purpose (in publishing
this Booke) is set foorth.



With I am verie sorrie (Sir) I am thus vnawares betrayed to infamie. You write to me my book is hasting to the second impression: he that hath once broke the Ice of impudence, need not care how deepe he wade in discredit. I confesse it to be a meer toy, not deseruing any iudicial mans view: If it haue found any friends, so it is, you knowe very wel that it was abroad a fortnight ere I knewe of it, & vncorrected and vnfinished, it hath offred it selfe to the open scorne of the world. Had you not beene so forward in the republishing of it, you should haue had certayne Epistles to Orators and Poets, to insert to the later end; As namely, to the Ghost of *Machenill*, of *Tully*, of *Onid*, of *Roscins*, of *Pace* the Duke of Norfolks Iester; and lastly, to the Ghost of *Robert Greene*, telling him, what a coyle there is with pamphletting on him after his death. These were prepared for *Pierce Penilesse* first setting foorth, had not the feare of infection detained mee with my Lord in the Countrey.

Now this is that I woulde haue you to do in this second edition; First, cut off that long-tayld Title, and let mee not in the forefront of my Booke, make a tedious Mountebanks Oration to the Reader, when in the whole there is nothing praise-worthie.

I heare say there bee obscure imitators, that goe about to frame a second part to it, and offer it to sell in Paules Churchyard, and elsewhere, as from mee. Let mee request you (as euer you will expect any fauour at my hands) to get some body to write an Epistle before it, ere you set it to sale againe, importing thus much; that if any such lewde deuise intrude it selfe to their hands, it is a coseanage and plaine knauery of him that sels it to get mony, and that I haue no manner of interest or acquaintance with it. Indeed if my leysure were, such as I could wish, I might haps (halfe a yeare hence) write
the

The Author to the Printer.

the returne of the *Knight of the Post* from hel, with the *Devils* answer to the *Supplication*: but as for a second part of *Pierce Penilesse*, it is a most ridiculous rogerie.

Other news I am aduertised of, that a seald triuial lying pamphlet, cald *Greens groats-worth of wit* is giuen out to be of my doing. God neuer haue care of my soule, but vtterly renoūce me, if the least word or sillable in it proceeded from my pen, or if I were any way priuie to the writing or printing of it. I am growne at length to see into the vanity of the world more than euer I did, and now I condemne my selfe for nothing so much, as playing the dolt in Print. Outvpon it, it is odious, specially, in this moralizing age, wherein euery one seeks to shew himselfe a Polititian by mis-interpreting. In one place of my Booke *Pierce Penilesse* saith, but to the Knight of the Post, *I pray how might I call you*, & they say I meant one *Howe*, a Knaue of that trade that I neuer heard of before. The Antiquaries are offended without cause, thinking I goe about to detract from that excellent profession, when (God is my witnesse) I reuerence it as much as any of them all, and had no manner of allusion to them that stumble at it. I hope they wil giue me leaue to think there be fooles of that Art as well as of al other; but to say I vtterly condemne it as an vnfruitfull studie, or seeme to despise the excellent qualified partes of it, is a most false and iniurious surmise. There is nothing that if a man list he may not wrest or peruert, I cannot forbid anie to thinke villainously, *Sed caueat emptor*, Let the interpreter beware: for none euer hard me make Allegories of an idle text. Write who wil against me, but let him look his life be without scandale: for if he touch me neuer so litle, Ile be as good as the Blacke Booke to him & his kindred. Beggerly lyes no beggerly wit but can inuent: who spurneth not at a dead dogge? but I am of another mettall, they shall know that I liue as their euil Angel, to haunt them world without end, if they disquiet me without cause. Farewell, and let me heare from you as soone as it is come forth. I am the Plagues prisoner in the Country as yet: if the sicknesse cease before the thirde impression, I wil come and alter whatsoeuer may be offensive to any man, and bring you the latter end.

Your friend, Tho. Nashe.



Pierce Penilesse his Supplication to the Diuell.



Having spent many yeeres in studying
how to liue, and liu'de a long time with-
out mony: hauing tired my youth with
follie, and surfetted my minde with va-
nitie, I began at length to looke backe
to repentance, & addresse my endeuors
to prosperitie: But all in vaine, I late vp
late, and rose eraelly, contended with the
colde, and conuersed with scarcitie: for
all my labours turned to losse, my vulgar Muse was despised &
neglected, my paines not regarded or slightly rewarded, and I
my selfe (in prime of my best wit) laid open to pouertie. Where-
vpon (in a malecontent humour) I accused my fortune, raild on my
patrones, bit my pen, rent my papers, and ragde in all points like
a mad man. In which agony tormenting my selfe a long time, I
grew by degrees to a milder discontent: and pausing a while to
uer my standish, I resolved in verse to paint forth my passion:
which best agreeing with the vaine of my vnrrest, I began to com-
plaine in this sort.

Why ist damnation to dispaire and die,
When life is my true happinesse disease?
My soule, my soule, thy safetye makes me flie
The faultie meanes, that might my paine appease.
Diuines and dying men may talke of hell,
But in my heart, her seuerall tormentes dwell.
Ah worthlesse Wit, to traine me to this woe,
Deceitfull Artes that nourish Discontent:
Ill thriue the Follie that bewicht me so,

A

Vaine

Dicite qui
sapitis,
cum hac
qua sci-
mus iner-
tes: Sed
trepidus a-
cies, &
fera bella
sequi.

Est aliquid
fatale ri-
lum, per
verba le-
uare.

Pierce Penilesse his

Vaine thoughts adieu, for now I will repent.

And yet my wantes perswade me to proceede,

Since none takes pittie of a Scollers neede.

Forgiue me God, although I curse my birth,

And ban the aire, wherein I breath a Wretch:

Since Miserie hath daunted all my mirth,

And I am quite vndone through promise-breach.

Oh friends, no friends, that then vngently frowne,

When changing Fortune casts vs headlong downe.

Without redresse complains my carelesse verie,

And *Mydas*-cares relent not at my moane:

In some far Land will I my griefes reherse,

Mongst them that will be mou'd when I shall groane.

England (adieu) the Soyle that brought me foorth,

Adieu vnkinde, where skill is nothing woorth.

Poeme oc-
cidistis a-
m c).

These Rymes thus abruptly set downe, I tost my imagina-
tions a thousand waies to see if I could finde any meanes to re-
lieue my estate: But all my thoughtes consozted to this conclusi-
on, that the world was vncharitable, & I ordained to be miserable.
Thereby I grew to consider how many base men that wanted
those parts which I had, enioyed content at will, and had wealth
at command: I cald to minde a Cobler, that was worth five
hundred pound, an Hostler that had built a goodly Anne & might
dispende fortye pound yerely by his Land, a Carre-man in a le-
ther pilche, that had whipt out a thousand pound out of his horse
taile: and haue I more wit than all these (thought I to my selfe)
am I better bozne? am I better brought vp? yea and better fa-
uored: and yet am I a begger? What is the cause? how am I
crossed? whence is this curse?

Euen from hence, that men that should employ such as I am,
are enamoured of their own wits, and thinke what euer they do is
excellent, though it be neuer so scurue: that Learning (of the ig-
norant) is rated after the value of the inke and paper: & a Scri-
uener better paid for an obligation, than a Scholler for the best
Poeme he can make; that euery grosse brained Idiot is suffered
to come into print, who if hee set foorth a Pamphlet of the praise
of Pudding-picks, or write a Treatise Tom Thumme, or the
exploits

Scribimus
iuderi
doctique

Supplication to the Diuell,

exploits of Vntruffe; it is bought vp thicke and threefold, when better things lie dead. How then can we chuse but be needy, when ther are so many Doans amongst vs: or euer proue rich that toyle a whole yeare for faire looks. Gentle Sir Phillip Sidney, thou knewst what belongs to a Scholler, thou knewst what paines, what toyle, what trauel conduct to perfection: wel couldest thou giue euery Vertue his encouragement, euery Art his due, euery wriiter his desert: canst none moze vertuous witty, or learned than thy selfe.

*poequiata
pallum.*

But thou art dead in thy grane, and hast left too few successors of thy glozy, too few to cherish the Sons of the Muses, or water those budding hopes with their plenty, which thy bounty erst planted.

*Heu rapi-
unt mala*

Beleeue me Gentlemen, for some crosse mishapes haue taught me experience, ther is not that strict obseruation of honour, which hath beene heeretofore. Men of great calling take it of merite, to haue their names eternizd by Poets, & whatsoeuer pamphlet or dedication encounters them, they put it vp in their fleeces, and scarce giue him thanks that presents it. Much better is it for those golden Pens, to raise such vngratfull Peasants from the Dung-hill of obscuritie, and make them equal in faue to the Worthies of olde, when their dotting selfe-loue shall challenge it of dutie, and not onely giue them nothing themselves, but impouersish liberality in others.

This is the lamentable condition of our Times, that men of Arte must seeke almes of Cozmorantes, and those that deserue best, be kept vnder by Dunces, who count it a policie to keepe them bare, because they should follow their bookes the better: thinking belike, that as preferment hath made themselves tole, that were erst painefull in meaner places, so it would likewise slacken the endeouours of those Students that as yet strue to excell, in hope of aduancement. A good policie to suppress superfluous liberalitie. But haue it beene practised when they were promoted, the Promandry of the Realme had beene better to passe than it is, and one Doane should not haue driuen so many Bees from their hony-combes.

A, A. weele giue loosers leaue to talke, it is no matter what *Sic probo* and his pennilesse companions prate, whilest we haue

Pierce Penilesse his

the gold in our coffers: this is it that will make a knave an honest man, and my neighbour Crampons stripling a better Gentleman than his Grandier. O it is a trim thing, when Pride the sonne goes before, and Shame the father follows after. Such presidents there are in our Common-wealth a great many: not so much of them whome Learning and Industry hath exalted, (whom I preferre before *Genus* and *proanos*) as of Carterly bystarts, that out-face Towne and Country in their Heluets, when Sir Rowland Russet-coat their Dad, goes sagging every day in his round Gascopynes of whyte cotton, and hath much a doo (poore pennie-father) to keepe his vntyft elbowes in reparations.

Happy happy are they (say I) that haue such fathers to worke for them whilest they play, for where other men turne ouer many leaues to get bread and cheese in their old age, and study twentie yeeres to distill golde out of inke; our young maisters doe nothing but deuise how to spend and aske counsaile of the Wine and Capons, how they may quickliest consume their patrimonies. As for me, I liue secure from all such perturbations: for (thanks be to God) I am *vacuus viator*, and care not though I meete the Commissioners of Newmarket-heath at high midnight, for any Crosses, Images, or Pictures that I carry about me more than needes.

Than needes (quoth I) nay I would be ashamed of it, if *Opus* and *Vsu* were not knocking at my doore twentie times a weeke when I am not within; the more is the pittie, that such a franke Gentleman as I, should want: but since the dice do runne so vntowardly on my side, I am partly prouided of a remedie. For whereas those that stand most on their honour, haue shut vp their purses, and shifte vs off with court-holie-bread: and on the other side, a number of hypocriticall hot-spurres, that haue God alwayes in their mouthes, will giue nothing for Gods sake; I haue clapt vp a handsome Supplication to the Diuell, and sent it by a good fellow, that I know will deliuer it:

And because you may beleue me the better, I care not if I acquaint you with the circumstance.

I was infor me of late dayes, that a certaine blind Betayler called the Diuell, vsed to lend money vpon pawns, or any thing,
and

Supplication to the Diuell.

and would lette one for a neede haue a thousand poundes vpon a Statute Merchant of his soule: or if a man plide him thoroughly, would trust him vpon a Bill of his hande without any more circumstance. Besides, he was noted for a priuy Benefactor to Traitors and Parasites, and to aduance fooles and Asses far sooner than any, to be a greedy pursuer of newes, and so famous a Politician in purchasing, that Wel (which at the beginning was but an obscure Village) is now become a huge Cittie, whereunto all Countries are tributary.

These manifest coniectures of Plentie, assembled in one common-place of abilitie; I determined to clawe Avarice by the elbowe, till his full belly gaue me a full hande, and lette him bloud with my penne (if it might be) in the veyne of liberalitie: and so (in short time) was this Paper-monster Pierce Penilesse begotten.

But written and all, here lies the question; where shal I finde this olde Ass, that I may deliuer it. Passe thats true, they say the Lawyers haue the Diuell and all; and it is like enough he is playing Ambodexter amongst them. Fie, fie, the Diuell a driuer in Westminster hall, it can neuer be.

Now I pray what doe you imagine him to bee? Perhaps you thinke it is not possible he should bee so graue. Oh then you are in an errour, for hee is as formall as the best Scrivener of them all. Marry he doth not vse to weare a night-cap, for his hornes will not let him: and yet I know a hundred as well headed as he, that will make a tolly Wife with a Court-cup on their crownes if the weather be colde.

To proceede with my tale, to Westminster hall I went, and made a search of Enquiry, from the blacke gown to the buckram bagge, if there were any such Sergeant, Benchet, Counsellor, Attorney, or Pettifogger, as Signior Cornuto Diabolo, with the good face. But they al (*una voce*) affirmed, that he was not there: marry whether he were at the Exchaunge or no, amongst the rich Merchantes, that they could not tell: but it was likelier of the two, that I should meet with him, or heare of him at the least in those quarters. I faith, and say you so quoth I, and Ile bestowe a little labour more, but Ile hunt him out.

Without more circumstance, thither came I; and thrusting my

Pierce Penileffe his

selfe, as the manner is, amongst the confusion of languages, I asked (as before) whether he were there extant or no: But from one to another, *Non noui Damonem* was all the answer I could get. At length (as Fortune serued) I lighted vpon an old straggling Usurer, clad in a damaske cassocke edged with Fox sur, a paire of trunke slops, sagging down like a Shoemakers watter, and a shorte thw-bare gown on his backe fast with moatheaten budge, vpon his head he wore a filthy course biggin, and next it a garnish of night-caps, which a sage butten-cap, of the forme of a cow-sheard ouer spread very orderly: a fat chuffe it was I remem-ber, with a gray beard cut short to the stumps, as though it were grinde, and a huge woorme-eaten nose, like a cluster of grapes hanging downe-wardes. Of him I demaunded if hee could tell me any tidings of the partie I sought for.

By my troth quoth he stripling, (and then he cought) I saw him not lately, nor know I certainly where he keepes: but thus much I heard by a Broker a friend of mine, that hath had some dealings with him in his time, that he is at home sicke of the gout and will not bee spoken withal. vnder more than thou art able to giue, some two or three hundred angels at least, if thou hast any sute to him: & then perchapes hele straine curtisie with his legges in childe-bed, and come forth and talke with thee: but otherwise, *Non est domi*, hee is busie with Mammon, and the prince of the North, how to build vp his kingdome, or sending his spirites abroad to vndermine the maligners of his gouernment.

I hearing of this cold comfort, tooke me leaue of him verie faintly, and like a carelesse malecontent that knew not which way to turne, retired me to Paules to seeke my dinner with Duke Humfrey: but when I came there, the olde souldier was not by: he is long a rising thought I, but thats all one: for he that hath no money in his purse, must go dine with sir John Best-betrust, at the signe of the chalk and the Post.

Two hungry turnes had I scarce fetcht in this wast gallery, when I was encountered by a neat pedantical fellow, in forme of a Citizen: who thrusting himselfe abruptly into my companie like an Intelligencer, began very earnestly to question with me about the cause of my discontent, or what made me so sad, that seemed too poore to be acquainted with sorrow. I nothing nice to vn-
fold

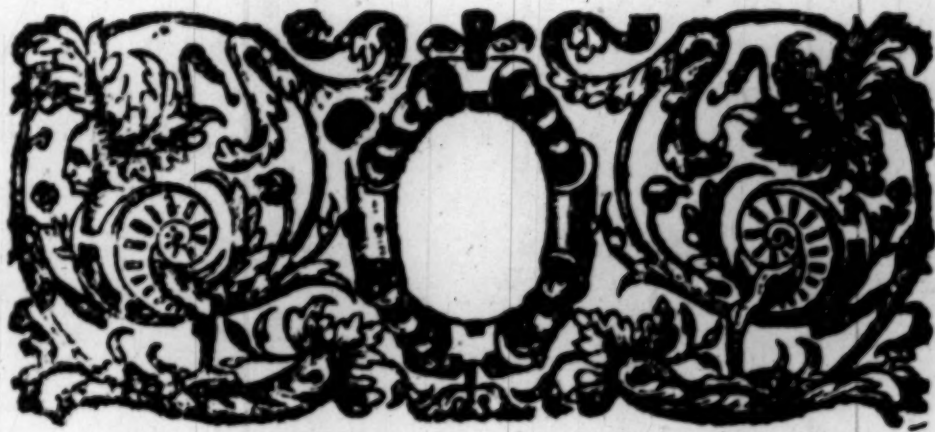
Supplication to the Diuell.

Told my estate to any whatsoeuer, discourst to him the whole circumstance of my care: and what toyle and paines I had tooke in searching for him that would not be heard of. **With** Sir (quoth he) had I bene priue to your purpose before, I could haue eas'd you of this trauell: for if it be the diuell you seeke for, know I am his man. I pray sir how might I call you? A knighe of the Post quoth he, for so I am tearmed: a fellowe that will sweare you any thing for twelue pence, but indeed I am a spirite in nature and essence, that take vpon me this humaine shame, onely to set men together by the eares, and send soules by millions to hell.

Non bene
conducti
vendunt
per iuria
testes.

Now trust me a substantiall trade, but when doe you thinke you could send next to your maister: why every day: for there is not a cozmozant that dies, or Cut-purse that is hanged, but I dispatch letters by his soule to him, and to all my friends in the low-cuntries: wherefore, if you haue any thing that you would haue transported: giue it me, and I will see it deliuered.

Yes marry haue I (quoth I) a certaine Supplication here vnto your Maister, which you may peruse if it please you. **With** that he opened it, and read as followeth.



Piere Penilesse his

To the high and mightie Prince of
Darknesse, Donsell dell Lucifer, King of A-
cheron, Stix and Phlegeton, Duke of Tartary, marquesse of
Conytus, and Lord high Regent of *Lymbo*: his distressed
Orator Pierce Penilesse, *wissheth encrease of damnati-*
on, and malediction eternall, Per Iesum Chri-
stum Dominum nostrum.



No ile be
sworne vp-
pon a book
haue I not

Most humbly sueth vnto your Anfulnes, your sin-
gle soald Orator Pierce Penilesse: that where-
as your impious excellence, hath had the pooze
rennement of his purse any time this halfe yeer
for your dauncing schoole, and he (notwithstan-
ding) hath receiued no peny nor cosse for farre me,
according to the vsuall manner it may please your gracelesse Ma-
iestie to consider of him, and giue order to your seruant Quarice,
he may be dispatched, insomuch as no man heere in London can
haue a dauncing schoole without rent, and his wit and knauerie
cannot be maintained with nothing. Or if this be not so plausible
to your honourable infernalship, it might seeme good to your hel-
hood, to make exteint vpon the soules of a number of vncharitable
cozmorants, who hauing incurd the daunger of a *Premunire*, with
medling with matters that properly concerne your owne person,
deserue no longer to liue (as men) amongst men, but to bee incor-
porated in the society of diuels. By which meanes, the mightie
controller of fortune, and imperious subuerter of destiny, delici-
ous gold, the pooze mans God and Idol of princes (that looks
pale and wanne through long imprisonment, might at length be re-
storred to his powrfull Donar this, and eftsoo be sette at liberty,
to helpe his friends that haue neede of him.

Idest, for
the free-
dome of
gold.

I knowe a great sort of good fellowes that would venture
farre for his freedom, and a number of needy Lawyers, (who
now inourne in threed-bare gowns for his thalosome) that would
goe neere to poison his keepers with false Latine, that might
procure his enlargement: but mercifull prouidence detaines him in the
dungeon of the night, so that now (poore creature) hee can neither
traffique wit, the Perce: and Tailors as he was wont, nor do-
minere

Supplication to the Diuell.

minere in **Tauernes** as he ought.

Famine, Lent, and desolation, sit in **Dnyon skind** tackets before the dooze of his indurance, as a **Chorus** in the **Tragedy of Hospitality**, to tell hunger and pouertie thers no reliefe for them there: and in the inner part of this vgly habitation, stands **Greedinesse**, prepared to deuoure all that enter, attyed in a **Capouch** of witten parchment, buttond downe before with **Labels of war**, and lined with **sheepes fells** for warmenes: his **Cappe** furd with cats skins, after the **Huscouie** fashion, and all to be tasseid with **Angle-hooks** in stead of **Aglets**, ready to catch hold of all those to whom he shewes any humblenes: for his breeches they were made of the lists of broad cloaths, which he had by letters pattents assured him and his heyses, to the utter overthrowe of **Bowcases** and **Cushin makers**, and bumbasted they were like **Beer barrels**, with **statute Parchanis** and forfeitures. But of all, his shoes were the strangest, which being nothing els but a couple of crab shels, were tooothd at the toes with two sharp serpentine nalles, that digd bp every dunghill they came by for gould, and snarld at the stones as he went in the street, because they were so common for men, women and childzen to tread vpon, and he could not deuise how to wrest an odde fine out of any of them.

The description
of Greedines.

Thus walkes hee vp and downe all his life time, with an yron crow in his hand in stead of a staffe, and a **Sarients** face in his mouth. (which night and day he still gnawd vpon) & eether busies himselfe in setting siluer lime twigs to entangle yooing Gentlemen, and casting foorch silken shrapes to catch **Woodcocks**, or in spuing of **Duckbills** and **shop-dust**, whereof he will boult a whole cartload to gaine a bowd pinne.

On the other side, **Dame Niggardize** his wife, in a sedge rug kirtle, that had beene a mat time out of minde, a course hempen raile about her shoulders, borrowed of the one end of a hop-bag, an apron made of **Almanackes** out of date (such as stand vpon **Screens**, or on the backside of a doze in a **Chandlers shop**), and an old wifes pudding pan on her head, chymd with the parings of her nalles, late harrelling bp the droppings of hir nose, in stead of oyle to saime wooll withall, and would not aduenture to spit without halfe a dozen porrengers at her elbow.

The description
of dame
Niggardize.

The house (or rather the hell) where these two **Earthwormes**

B

encap-

Pierce Penilesse his

encaptiued this beautifull Substaunce, was baste, large, strong buildt, and well furnished, all saue the Kitchin: for that was no bigger then the Cookes roome in a ship, with a little court chimney, about the compasse of a *Parentthesis* in proclamation print: then Iudge you what diminutiue dishes came out of this doueg-neast. So likewise of the Buttry, for whereas in houses of such stately foundation that are builte to outward shewe so magnificent, euery Office is answerable to the Hall, which is principall, there the Buttry was no more but a blind Cole-house vnder a paire of Staires, wherein (vprising and downelying) was but one single single kilderkin of small beere, that would make a man with a carrouse of a spoonefull, runne through an Alphabet of faces. Nor vld they any glasses or cups (as other men) but onely little farthing ounce boxes, whereof one of them filld vp with froath (in manner and forme of an Ale-house) was a meales allowance for the whole household. It were lamentable to tel what misery the Rattes and Mice endured in this hard world, how when all supply of vittuals failed them, they went a Boot-haling one night to Simio? Greedinesse bed-chamber, where finding nothing but emptines and vastitie, they encountred (after long inquisition) with a cob-peere, wel dunged and manured with greace (which my pinch farrpente-father had retained from his Bachelorship, vntill the eating of these presents. Vpon that they set, and with a couragious assault rent it cleene away from the breeches, and then carried it in triumph like a coffin on their shoulders betwixt them. The vrie spiders and dust-weauers, that wont to set vp their loomes in euery window, decayed and vndone through the extreame dearth of the place, that afforded them no matter to worke on) were constrained to breake against their wills, and goe dwell in the countrey, out of the reach of the broome and the wing: and generally, not asle nor a cricket that caried any braue minde, that would stay there after he had once tasted the order of their fare. Onely vnfortunate gold (a predestinat slaue to bzudges and fooles) liues in endlesse bondage ther amongst them, and may no way be releast, except you lend the rot halfe a yeare amongst his keepers, and so make them away with a murrion one after another.

O, but a far greater enozmity raigneth in the hart of the Court:

Wilde

Supplication to the Diuell.

Wilde the peruerter of all Vertue, sister appareled in the Merchants Spoiles, and ruine of yong Citizens: and scorneth learning, that gaue their vp. Cart Fathers, titles of gentry.

The complaint of pride.

All malcontent sits the greasie son of a Cloathier, & complains (like a decayed Carle) of the ruine of ancient houses: whereas the Weauers loomes first framed the web of his honoz, & the lockes of wool that bushes and bryambles haue tooke for coule of insolent sheep, that would needs strue for the wall of a fir bush, haue made him of the tenths of their ear, a Squier of low degree: and of the collectiōs of their scatterings, a Justice *Tam Marti quam Mercurio*, of Peace & of Cozam. Hee will bee humorous forsooth, and haue a broode of fashions by himselfe. Sometimes (because Loue commonly weares the liuerey of Wit) hee will be an *Inamorato Poeta*, & sonnet a whole quire of paper in praise of Lady Swin-snout, his peolow lac'd Mistres, & weare a feather of her rain beaten fan for a fauoz, like a foze-horse. Al *Italionato* is his talke, & his spade peake is as sharpe as if he had been a pioner before the walls of *Roan*. Hee will despise the barbarisme of his own Country, & tel a whole Legend of lyes of his traualles vnto *Constantinople*. If he be challenged to fight, for his delatozre excuse hee objects, that it is not the custome of the Spaniard or the Germane, to looke back to euery dog that barks. You shall see a dapper Iacke, that hath been but ouer at *Deepe*, wring his face round about, as a man would stir vp a mustard pot, & talke English through his teeth like Iaques Scabd-hams, or Monsieur Mingo de Moustrap: when (poore slaue) he hath but dypt his bread in wilde Boares greace, and come home againe: or been bitten by the skins by a wolfe: and satch, he hath aduentured vpon the Barricadoes of *Gurney* or *Guingan*, and fought with the yong Guise hand to hand.

The nature of an vpratt.

Some thinke to be counted rare Politicians and Statesmen, by being solitary: as who would say, I am a wise man, a braue man, *Secreta mea mihi: Frustra sapit, qui sibi non sapit*: and there no man worthy of my companie or friendship: when, although he goes vngartered like a malecontent Cutpurse, & weares his hat ouer his eyes like one of the cursed crue, yet is not his stabling dagger, or his nittie loue lock keep him out of the legend of fantastical cockcombs. I praye good Decifier diuel take some order, & the

The counterfeit politician.

Pierce Penilesse his

streetes be not pestered with them so as they are. Is it not a pitiful thing that a fellow that eates not a good meales meat in a weeke, but beggereth his belly quite and cleane, to make his backe a certaine kind of brokerly Gentleman: and now and then (once or twice in a Tearme) comes to the eightene pence Dybenary, because hee would be seen amongst Cavaliers and braue courtiers, liuing otherwise all the yeere long with salt Butter and Holland cheese in his chamber, should take vppe a scornfull melancholy in his gate and countenance, and talke as though our common welch were but a mockery of gouernment, and our Statesrates fooles, who wronged him in not looking into his deserts, not imploying him in State matters, and that if more regard were not had of him very shortly, the whole Realme should haue a misse of him & he would go (I may say) where he should be more accounted of:

Is it not wonderfull ill provided, I say, that this disdainfull companion is not made one of the fraternity of Fooles, to talke before great States, with some olde moth eaten Politician, of mending high waies, and leading Armies into Fraunce:

The prodigall yeong Master

A yoong Heyre of Corkney, that is his Mothers Darling, if he haue playde the waste-good at the Tynes of the Court or about London, and that neither his Students pension, nor his vnclelysts credite will serue to maintaine his Collidge of whores any longer, falles in a quarrelling humour with his fortune, because she made him not King of the Indies, and swears and starcs after ten in the hundredeth, that nere a such Desant as his Father or brother shall keepe him vnder, hee will to the sea and teare the gold out of the Spaniards throats but he will haue it, by plady when he comes there, poore soule hee lyes in byrme in Balist, and is lamentable sicke of the scur- uies, his dainty fare is turned to a hungry feast of Dogs & Cats, or Haberdine and poore John at the mast, and which is lamentablest of all, that without Mustard.

As a mad Ruffion on a time, being in daunger of shipwrack by a tempest, and seeing all other at their bowes and prayers, that if it would please God of his infinite goodnesse, to deliuer them out of that imminent daunger, one would abiure this Sane wher vnto he was adicted: an other, make satisfaction for that

Supplication to the Diuell.

that byolence he had committed: he in a desperate iest, began thus to reconcile his soule to heauen.

O Lord, if it may seeme good to thee to deliuer me from this feare of untimely death, I vowe before thy Throne and all thy Army Host, neuer to eate Haberdine more whilst I liue. Well, so it fell out that the Sky cleared, and the tempest ceased, and this carelesse wretch, that made such a mockery of prayer, ready to set foote a Land, cryed out: not without Mustard good Lord. not without Mustard: as though it had been the greatest torment in the world, to haue eaten Haberdine without Mustard. But this by the way, what penance can be greater for Pride, than to let it swinge in his owne halter? *Dulce bellum in expertis*, theres no man loues the smooke of his owne Countrey, that hath not beene syngde in the flame of an other soyle. It is a pleasaunt thing ouer a full pot, to read the fab'e of thirsty Tantalus: but a harder matter to digest salt mea-es at Sea, with stinking water.

An other misery of Pride it is, when men that haue good parts, and beare the name of deepe scholars: cannot be content to participate one faith with all Christendome, but because they will get a name to their vaine glory, they will set their selfe-loue to studie to inuent new sects of singularitie, thinking to liue when they are dead, by hauing sects called after their names, as Donatists of Donatus Arrians of Arrius: and a number more new faith-founders that haue made England the exchange of Innuations, and almost as much confusion of Religion in euery Quarter, as there was of tongues at the building of the Tower of Babell. Whence, a number that fetch the Articles of their Beleefe out of Aristotle, and thinke of heauen and hell as the Heathen Philosophers, take occasion to deride our Ecclesiasticall State, and all Ceremonies of Deuine worship, as bugbeares scar-crowes, because (like Herodes souldiers) we diuide Christs garment amongst vs in so many peeces, and of the vesture of saluation make some of vs Babes and apes coates, others straight trusses and Diuells breeches: some gally-gascoines or a shipmans hose like the Anabaptists and adulterous Familists, others with the Martinist a hood with two faces to hide their hypocrisie: & to conclude some like the Barrowists and Greenwoodians, a garment full of the plague, which is not to be woꝛne before it be new washt.

The pride
of the lear-
ned.

Pierce Penilesse his

Hence Atheists triumph and reioyce, and talke as prophane of the Bible, as of Beuts of Hampton. I heare say there be Mathematicians abroad, that will proue men before Adam, and they are harboured in high places, who will maintaine it to the death, that there are no diuels.

The diuell
hath chil-
dren (as o-
ther mens)
but fewe of
them know
their owne
father.

It is a shame (senior Belzibub) that you should suffer your selfe thus to be tearmed a bastard, or not approue to your predestinate children, not only that they haue a father, but that you are he that must owne them. These are but the suburbs of the sinne we haue in hand: I must describe to you a large citie, wholly inhabited with this damnable enormitie.

The pride
of Artifi-
cers.

In one place let me shew you a base Artificer, that hath no reuenues to boast on, but a Needle in his bosome; as braue as any Pensioner or Noble man.

The pride
of Mar-
chants
wiues.

In an other corner, Mistris Mint a Marchants wife, that will cate no Cherries forsooth, but when they are at twenty shillings a pound, that lookes as simperingly as if she were besmeared, and lets it as gingerly as if she were dancing the Canaries: she is so finicall in her speach, as though she spake nothing but what shee had first sewd out before in her Samplers, and the puling accent of her voyce is like a famed treble, or ones voyce that interprets to the puppets. What should I tel how squeamish she is in her dyet, what toyle she puts her poore seruants vnto, to make her looking glasses in the pauement: how she will not go into the field to cowe on the greene grasse, but she must haue a Coach for her conuoy: and spends halfe a day in pranking her selfe if she be invited to any strange place: Is not this the excesse of pride signior Satan: Goe too, you are vnwise, if you make her not a chiefe Saint in your Calender.

The pride
of peasants
sprung vp
of nothing.

The next object that encounters my eyes, is some such obscure upstart gallants, as without desert or seruice are raised from the plough, to be cheekmate with Princes: and these I can no better compare than to creatures that are bred *Sine coitu*, as crickets in chimnies, to which I resemble poore Scullians, that from turning spit in the chimney corner, are on the sodaine hoised vp from the kitchen into the waiting chamber, or made Barons of the victuals, and Marqueses of the Harpstones: some by corrupt water, as gnatte, to which we may liken Brewers, that by resapling

Alty

Supplication to the Diuell.

filthy Thames water, come in few yeares to bee worth fortye or fiftie thousand pound: others by dead wine, as little flying wormes, and so the Vintners in like case: others by slime as scogs, which may be alluded to *Wether Bunches* slime ale, that hath made her, and some other of her fil-pot facultie so wealthie: others by dirt, as wormes, and so I know many gold-finers and hostlers come vp: some by hearbes, as cankers, and after the same sort our Apothecaries: others by albes as *Scarabes*: and how else get our Colliers the pence: Others from the putrified flesh of dead beasts, as Bees of Bulls, and Butchers by fli-blown beefe, waspes of horses, and Hackney-men by selling their lame iades to hunt-men for carrion.

Yet am I not against it, that these men by their mechanicall trades should come to be *Sparage* Gentlemen, and chuff-headed Burghomasters: but that better places should bee possessed by coystrils, and the Coblers crowe for crying but *Aue Caesar*, bee more esteemed than rarer birds that haue warbled sweeter notes unrewarded. But it is no meruaile: For as Hemlock fatteth Quails, and Penban: Swine, which to all other is popson: so some mens vices haue power to aduance them which would subuert any else that should seeke to climbe by them: and it is enough in them that they can pare their nailes well to get them a living, when as the seauen liberall Sciences and a good leg, will scarce get a scholler a paire of shoes, and a Canvas-dublet.

These whelpes of the first Litter of Gentilitie, these Erhalations, drawne vp to the heauen of honor, from the dunghill of abiect fortune, haue long been on horseback to come riding to your Diuclhip: but I knowe not howe like Saint George they are alwaies mounted, but neuer moue. Here they out-face Towne and countrey, and doo nothing but bandie factions with their betters. They big limbes peelee the Common-wealth no other seruice but idle sweate, and they heads like rough hewen Gloabes, are fit for nothing but to be the blockhouses of sleepe. Raynold the Fox may well beare vp his taile in the Lions denne, but when he comes abroad, hee is afraid of euery dogge that barks. What Cur will not bawle, and be ready to flic in a mans face, when he is set on by his maister, who if hee bee not by, to encourage him, he casts his taile betwixt his legs, & scales away like a sheepbiter.

Vlisses

Sparagus
a flowre
that neuer
groweth
but through
a mans
dong.

Pierce Penilesse his

Ulysses was a tall man vnder Ajax shield : but by himselfe hee would neuer aduerture but in the night. Pride is neuer built but vpon some pillers : and let his supporters faile him neuer so little, you shall finde him very humble in the dust. Wit oftentimes stands in need of a chiefe arche to vnderproppe it, in souldiers strength, in women beautie.

The base
insinuating
of drudges
and their
practise to
aspire.

Drudges, that haue no extraordinarie gifts of body, nor of minde, filche themselves into some Noble mans seruice, either by bribes or by flattery, and when they are there, they so labour it with cap and knee, and plie it with priuate whisperings, that they wying themselves into his good opinion ere he be aware. Then do they vaunt themselves ouer the common multitude, and are ready to outbrave any man that stands by himselfe. Their Lords authoritie is as a rebater to beare vp the Peacocks taile of theyr boasting, and any thing that is said or doone to the vnhandsoming of their ambition, is straight wrested to the name of treason. Thus do weeds grow by whiles no man regards them, and the Ship of Fooles is arrived in the Haven of Felicitie, whilst the scouters of Enuie contemne the attempts of any such small Barks.

But beware you that be great mens Favourites: let not a seruile insinuating slaue creepe betwixt your legs into credit with your Lords: for peasants that come out of the colde of pouertie, once cherished in the bosome of prosperitie, will straight forget that euer there was a winter of want, or who gaue them roome to warme them. The sonne of a charle cannot chuse but proue ingratfull like his Father. Trust not a villaine that hath bene miserable, and is sodainly growne happie. Vertue ascendeth by degrees of desert vnto dignitie: golde and lust may lead a man a nearer way to promotion: but he that hath neither comelinesse nor come to commend him, vndoubtedly strides ouer time by stratagems, *if of a mole-hill hee growes to a mountaine in a moment.

As by ear-
rying tales
or playing
the dourie
Pandor.

This is that which Iudge, there is no friendship to be had with him, that is resolute to doe or suffer any thing, rather than to endure the destinie whereto he was borne: for he will not spare his owne Father or Brother, to make himselfe a Gentleman.

The pride
of the Spa-
niard.

Fraunce, Italy, and Spaine, are all full of these false hearted Machiuillions: but properly Pride is the disease of the Spaniard, who is borne a Bagaert in his mothers wombe: for if he be
but

Supplication to the Diuell.

but 17 yeeres old and hath come to the place where a **Fild** was fought (though halfe a yeare before) he then talks like one of the **Giants** that made warre against **Heauen**, and stands bypon his honour as much, as if hee were one of **Augustus** **Souldiers**, of whom he first instituted the order of **Heralds**: and let a man scotch him in his vaine of **kilcrow** vanitie, you may commaund his heart out of his belly to make you a **rafter** on the **roales**, if you will next your heart.

The **Italian** is a more cunning proud fellowe, that hides his humour far cleaner, and indeed seemes to take a pride in humilitie, and will profer a **straunger** more curtesie than hee meanes to performe. Hee hateth him deadly that takes him at his word: as for example, if vpon occasion of meeting, he request you to dinner or supper at his house, and that at the first or second intreatie you promise to be his guest, he will be the mortallst enemy you haue: but if you deny him, he will thinke you haue manners and good bringing vp, and will loue you as his brother: marry at the third or fourth time you must not refuse him. Of all things he counteth it a mighty disgrace to haue a man passe iussling by him in hast on a narrow causeway, and aske him no leaue, which he neuer reuengeth with lesse then a stab.

The pride
of the Ita-
lian.

The **Frenchman** (not altered from his owne nature) is wholly compact of deceivable Courtship, and for the most part, loues none but himselfe and his pleasure: yet though he be the most **Grand Seigneur** of them all, he will say, *A vostre service & commandement Monsieur*, to the meanest **vassalle** he meets. Hee thinkes he doth a great fauour to that gentleman or follower of his, to whom he talks sitting on his close steele: and with that fauour (I haue heard) the queene mother wanted to grace the **Noble** men of **France**: and a great man of their **Nation** comming in time past ouer into **England**, and being heere very honourably receiued, he in requital of his admirable entertainment, on an evening going to the priue (as it were to honour extraordinarily our english **Lozds**, appointed to attend him) gaue one the candle, another his girdle, & another the paper: but they (not acquainted with this newe kinde of gracing) accompanying him to the priue doze, set down the trash, & so left him: which he (considering what kindness he extended to the other in more than vsual) tookaineously.

The pride
of the
French
man.

Pierce Penillette his

The pride
of the dane

If you know
him not by
any of these
marks look
on his fin-
gers & you
shal be sure
to find half
a dozen fil-
urings
with out re-
pence a
peece.

The most grosse and sencelesse proud dolts (in a different kind from all these) are the Danes: who stand so much upon their vn-
w:lop burlyboand souldiery, that they account of no man that
bath not a battle Axe at his girdle to hough dogs with, or weares
not a cockes feather in a reede thround hat like a cavalier: briefly,
he is the best foole bragart vnder heauen. For besides, nature
bath left him a flabberkin face, like one of the foure winds, and
cheekes that sag like a womans dogs ouer his chin-bone, his ap-
parel is so puffed vp with bladders of Taffatie, and his back like
biese stufte with Parsly, so drawne out with Ribands and deuises,
and blistered with light sarcenet bastings, that you would thinke
him nothing but a swarme of Butterflies, if you saw him a farre
off. Thus walkes he vp and downe in his Patestie, taking a
yard of ground at euery step, and stamps on the earth so terrible
as if he ment to knocke vpp a spirite, when (foule drunken be-
zle) if an Englishman set his little finger to him, he falles like a
hogs-trough that is set on one end. Therefore I am the moze ve-
bement against them, because they are an arrogant Ass-headed
people, that naturally hate learning, and all them that loue it: yea,
and for they would vtterly roote it out from among them, they
haue withdrawn all rewards from the Professors thereof. Not
Barbarie it selfe is halfe so barbarous as they are. First, whereas
the hope of honor maketh a Souldior in England: Bishoppicks,
Deanries, Prebendaries, and other priuate dignities, animate
our Diuines to such excellence. The ciuil Lawyers haue their
degrees & consistories of honour by themselves, equal in place
with Knights and Esquiers: the common Lawyers, (suppose in
the beginning they are but husband-mens sons) come in time to
be chiefe Fathers of the land, and manie of them not the meaneest
of the priuie Counsell.

No re-
wards a-
mongst
them for
desert.

There the souldior may fight himselfe out of his skinne, and
do moze exploitcs than he bath doptes in his purse, before from a
common mercenary, he come to be Corporal of the mouldcheese:
or the Lieutenant get a Captainship. None but the son of a Cor-
porall must be a Corporall, nor any be Captaine, but the lawfull
begotten of a Captaines body. Bishoppicks, Deanries, Preben-
daries, why they know no such functions: a sort of ragged Pini-
fers they haue, of whom they count as basely, as water-bearers.

Supplication to the Diuell.

If any of their Noblemen refraine thre howeres in his life time from drinkeing, to study the Lawes, hee may perhaps haue a little more gouernment put into his hands than another: but otherwise, Burgomasters and Gentlemen beare all the sway of both swords, spirituall and temporall. It is death there for anie but a husbandman to marry a husbandmans daughter, or a Gentlemans childe to toyne with any but the sonne of a Gentleman, marry this the King may well banish, but hee cannot put a Gentleman vnto death in any cause whatsoever, which makes them stand vpon it so proudly as they doe. For fashion sake some will put their children to schoole, but they set them not to it till they are foureteene yeere olde: so that you shall see a great boy with a beard learne his A B C. and sit weeping vnder the rod, when he is thirtie yeeres old.

I will not stande to inferre, what a prejudice it is to the thriue of a flourishing State, to popson the growth of glory, by giuing it nought but the puddle water of penury to drinke: to clippe the winges of a high towying Faulcon, who, wheras she wont in her feathered youthfulnesse, to looke with an amiable eye vpon her gray breast, and her speckled side sayles, all sinnowed with silver quilles, and to vnye whole Armies of fearefull fowle before her to her maisters Table: now she sits sadly on the ground, picking of wormes, mourning the crueltie of those vngentleman-like idle hands, that dismembred the beauty of her trayne.

What it is
to make
men labor
without
hope.

You all knowe, that man (inasmuch as hee is the Image of God) delighteth in honour and worship, and all holy Writ warranteth that delight, so it bee not derogatory to any part of Gods owne worship: now take away that delight, a discontented idlenesse ouertakes him. For his hire, any handycraft man, be he Carpenter, Joyner, or Painter, will ploddingly do his day labor: but to adde credit and fame to his workmanship, or to winne a mastery to himselfe aboue all other, hee will make a further assay in his trade, than euer hitherto he did, hee will haue a thousand flourishes which before he neuer thought vpon, and in one day ridde more out of hand, than eate hee did in ten: So in Armes, so in Artes, if titles of fame and glory be proposed to forward minds, or that soueraigntie (whose sweetnes they haue not yet felt) be set in likely view for them to see too, they will make a ladder of cord of the

Pierce Penilesse his

links of of their braines, but they will fasten their hands as well as their eyes, on the imaginatiue blisse, which they already enjoy by admiration. Experience repproues me for a foole, for dilating on so manifest a case.

The Dames are bursten-bellied foes, that are to bee confuted with nothing but Tankards of quart potts, and Ouid might as well haue read his verses to the Geres that vnderstood him not, as a man talk reason to them that haue no eares but their mouths nor sense but of that which they swallowe downe their throates. God so loue me, as I loue the quicke-witted Italians, and therefore loue them the more, because they mortally detest this surley swinish Generation.

I need not fetch colours from other countries to paint the vgly visage of Pride, since her picture is set forth in so many painted faces here at home. What dugs, what sorceries, what oiles, what waters, what oynments, doe our curious Dames vse to enlarge their withered beauties? Their lips are as lawishly red, as if they vied to kisse an oherman euery morning, and their cheeks sugar-candied and cherry blisht so sweetly, after the colour of a newe Lord Mayors pastes, as if the pageant of their wedlocke holiday were harde at the doore; so that if a Painter were to drawe any of their Counterfets on Table, he needes no more but wet his pencill, and dab it on their cheekes, and he shall haue vermillion and white enough to furnish out his worke, though he leaue his ear-bore at home behind him. Wile was that Sla-washing Poet that made the Ballet of Blue starch and poaking stiches, for indeed the lapne of licentiousnesse hath consumed all the wheat of hospitalitie. It is said Laurence Lucifer, that you went vp and downe London crying then like a lanterne & candle man. I meruaile no Laundresse would giue you the washing and starching of your face for your labour, for God knowes it is as black as the blacke Prince.

It is suspected you haue beene a great Tobacco taker in your youth, which causeth it to come so to passe: but Dame Nature your nurse was partly in fault, else she might haue remedied it. She should haue oynnted your face ouernight with Lac virginis, which basking vpon it in bed till the morning, she might haue pld off the scale like the skin of a custard, and making a pos-
see

Supplication to the Dittell,

set of vergis mixt with the oyle of Tartary and Camphier, bathed it in it a quarter of an houre, and you had been as faire as the floure of the frying pan. I warrant we haue old backsters in this great Grandmother of Corporations, Madame Troynouant, that haue not backbited any of their neighbours with the tooth of enuy this twentie yeare, in the wrinkles of whose face, ye may hide false dice, and play at cherry-pit in the dim of their cheekes, yet these aged mothers of iniquitie will haue their deformities newe plaistred ouer, and weare nosegayes of yelow haire on their furies foreheads, when age hath written For God be here, on their bald burnt parchment pates. Pish, pish, what talke you of old age or balde pates: men and women that haue gone vnder the South pole, must lay off their furdie night-caps in spight of their teeth, and become yemen of the Vineger bottle: a close periwig hides all the sinnes of an olde whoze-master, but *Cucullus non facit Monachum*: tis not their newe bonnets will keepe them from the old boan-ach. Ware when a mans lines are written on his ey-browes, and that there is not a haire breath betwixt them and the falling sicknes. The times are dangerous: and this is an yron age, or rather no yron age, for swordes and bucklers goe to pawne a pace in Long-Lane: but a time age; for time and pewter are moze esteemed than Latine. You that bee wise despise it, abhorre it, neglect it; for what shoulde a man care for gold that cannot get it.

An Antiquarie is a honest man, for hee had rather scrape a peece of copper out of the durt, than a crowne out of Ploydens stanch. I know many wise Gentlemen of this mustie vocation, who out of loue with the times wherein they liue, fall a retapling of Alexanders Airrups. because (in veritie) there is not suche a strong peece of stretchingleather made now adayes, nor yron so well tempered for any money. They will blow their nose in a boxe, & say it is the spetle that Diogenes spet in ones face: who being invited to dinner to his house, that was neat & brane in all points as might be deuised; and the grunting Dogge somewhat troubled with the rheume (by meanes of his long fasting and staying for dinner more than wont) spet full in his Hostesse face: and being asked the reason of it, said; it was the foulest place he could spie out in all his house. Let their Mistresse (or some other woman)

The commendation of Antiquaries. *Laudamus veteres, sed nostris utimur annis.*

Pierce Penilesse his

giue them a feather of her fanne for her fauour, and if one aske them what it is: they make answer, a plume of the pphenix, wher- of there is but one in all the whole world. A thousand gurgawes and topes haue they in their chambers, which they heape vp toge- ther with infinite expence, and are made beleue of them that sell them, that they are rare and precious thinges, when they haue gathered them vpon some dunghill, or rakte them out of the kennell by chance. I know one sold an old rope with foure knots on it for foure pound, in that he gaue it out, it was the length and breadth of Christs Tombe. Let a Tinker take a peece of brasle worch a halfe penie, and set strange stamps on it, and I warrant he may make it moze worth to him of some fantasticall soole, than all the kettels that euer he mended in his life. This is the disease of our newfangled humorists, that know not what to doe with their welch. It argueth a very rusty witte, so to deate on worme-eaten Elbe.

The com-
plaint of
Enuie.

O We vpon it, how long is Pride a dy: sing her selfe: Enuie a- wake for thou must appear before Nicalao Maleuolo great Muster maister of hell. Marke you this she mate, how smoothly hee lookes: The poets were ill aduised, that famed him to be a leane gag toothed Belldam with hollow eyes, pale cheeks, and snake like heire: for he is not onely a man, but a iolly lusty old Gentle- man, that will winke, and laugh, and leaue dyly, as if he were the honestest of a thousand: and I warrant you shall not heare a foule word come from him in a yere. I wil not contradict it, but the Dog may worry a sheepe in the dark, & thrust his necke into the collar of clemency & pity when he hath don: as who shold say, God forgive him, hee was a sleepe in the shambles, when the innocent was done to death. But openly, Enuie lets a ciuill fatherly coun- tenance vpon it, & hath not so much as a drop of bloud in his face to attaint him of murder. I thought it expedient in this my Sup- plication, to place it next to Pride: for it is his adopted sonne. And hence comes it, that proud men repine at others prosperitie, and greeue that any should be great but themselves. *Mens cuiusque, is est quisque*: it is a Proverbe that is as hoary as Dutch-butter. If a man wil go to the diuell, he may go to the diuell: there are a thousand iugling tricks to be vled at bey passe come aloft: & the world hath cords enough to trus vp a calf that stands in one way

Enuie

Supplication to the Diuell.

Envie is a Crocodile that weepes when he kills, and fights with none but he feedes on. This is the nature of this quick-fighted monster, he will endure any paynes to endamage another, waste his body with vnder-taking exploytes that would require tenne mens strengths, rather than any should get a penny but himselfe, blear his eyes to stand in his neighbours light; and to conclude, like Atlas vnder-proppe heauen alone, rather than any should be in heauen that hee like not of, or come vnto heauen by any other meanes but by him.

You Goodman wandrer about the world, how doe yee spende your time, that you do not rid vs of these pestilent members? you are unworthy to haue an office if you can execute it no better: Behold another enemy of mankind besides thy selfe exalted in the South, Philip of Spaine, who not content to bee the God of gold, and chiefest commaunder of content that Europe affoordes, but now he doth nothing but thirst after humane blood, when his foot is on the threshold of the graue: and as a Wolfe being about to deuoure a horse, doth balist his belly with earth, that hee may hang the heauier vpon him, and then forcibly flies in his face, neuer leauing his hold till he hath eaten him vp: so this wol- with vnnaturall vsurper, being about to deuoure all Christendom by inuasion, doth cram his treasures with Indian earth, to make his malice more forcible, and then flies in the bosome of France and Belgia, neuer withdrawing his forces (as the Wolfe his fast- ning) till he hath deuoured their welfare, & made the war-wasted carcases of both kingdomes a pray for his tyranny. Onely poore England giues him bread for his cake, and holdes him out at the armes end. His Armadoes (like a high wood ouer-shadowed the shrubs of our low ships) fled from the breath of our Cannons, as vapors before the Sun, or as the Elephant flies from the Ram, or the Sea Whale from the noyle of parched bones. The winds en- uying that the aire should be dimmed with such a Chaos of woden clouds, raised vp high bulwarks of bellowing waues, whence Death shot at their disordred Raup: and the Rocks with their ouer-hangmg iawes, ate vp all the fragments of oake that they left. So perishe our foes, so the Heauens dio fight for vs. *Præ- terit Hippomenes, resonant spectacula planis.*

Philip of
Spaine, as
grea. an e-
nemy to
mankind
as the di-
uell.

I do not doubt (Doctor Diuell) but you were present in this

Pierce Penilesse his

action of passion rather, and helpt to boze holes in ships, to make them sinke faster; and reuce out Galley-foistcs with salt water, that stinke like fustie barrells wit their Maisters feare. It will be a good while ere you doe as much for the King, as you did for his subiects. I would haue ye perswade an Arme of gentle Usurers to go to Sea vppon a boon voyage: trie if you can tempt Enuy to embarke himself in the mal' aduventure, and leaue troubling the streame, that Poets and good fellows may drinke, and Souldiers may sing *Placebo*, that haue murmured so long at the waters of strife.

But that wil neuer be: for so long as Pride, Riot, and whoresome are the companions of yong Courtiers, they wil alwayes bee hungry, and ready to bite at euerie Dog that hath a boone giuen him beside themselves. Iesu, what secret grudge and rancoz caignes amongst them, one being ready to dispaire of himself, if he see the Prince but giue his fellow a faire looke: or to die for grieve if he be put down in brauery neuer so little. Yet this custome haue our false hearts fetcht from other countries, that they will sweare and protest loue, where they hate deadly, and smile on him most kindly, whose subuersion in foule they haue vowed. *Frans sublimi regnat in aula*. 'Tis rare to finde a true friend in Kings Pallaces; Either thou must be miserable, that thou fall into the hands of scornful pittie, or thou canst not escape the sting of enuy. In one thought assemble the famous men of all ages, and tel me which of them all late in the sun-shine of his soueraignes grace, or worst great of low beginnings, but he was spiteblasted, beueed at, & ill spoken of: and that of those that bare them most countenance. But were enuy nought but wordes, it might seeme to bee onely womens stime: but it hath a lewde mate hanging on his sterue, called Murther, a sterne fellowe, that (like a Spanyard in fight) ay meth all all at the heart: he hath moze shapes than Proteus, and will shifte himselfe vppon any occasion of reuengement, into a mans dish, his drinke, his apparell, his ringes, his stirrops, his newe gay.

Murder,
the com-
panion of
Enuy.

Italye, the
storehouse
of all mur-
derous in-
uentions.

O Italye,* the Academie of man-slaughter, the sporting place of murder, the Apothecary shop of popson for all Nations: how many kind of weapons hast thou inuenced for malice? Suppose thou a mans wife whose husband yet liues, and cannot enioy her

Supplication to the Dinell.

her for his iealous ouer-looking: phisicke, or rather the art of murder (as it may be vled) will lend one a Medicine which shall make him away, in the nature of that disease he is most subiect to, whether in the space of a yeare, a moneth, halfe a yeare, or what tract of time you will, more or lesse.

In Rome the Papal Chayze is washt every fure yeare at the furthest with this oyle of Aconitum. I pray God the King of Spayne feasted not our holy father Sextus, that was last, with such conserue of Penbane, for it was credibly reported hee loued him not, & this that is now, is a God made with his owne hands as it may appeare by the Pasquil that was set vp of him, in manner of a note, presently after his election. *Sol, Re, Me, Fa.* that is to say: *Solus Rex me facit*; onely the K. of Spaine made me Pope. I am no Chronicler from our owne Countrey, but if probable suspicion might bee heard vpon his oath, I thinke some mens soules would not bee canonized for Partyes, that on the earth did sway it as Monarches.

The Pasqui that was made vpon this last Pope. As Cardinal Wholsey for example

As it your will and pleasure (noble Lantf-grane of Lymb) to let vs haue lesse carousing to your healt in poison, fewer vnder hand conspirings, or open quarrels, executed onely in wordes, as they are in the world now a dayes: & if men wil needs carouse, conspire, and quarrell. that they may make Ruffians hall of Hell: and there, bandy balles of Brimstone at one anothers head, and not trouble our peaceable Paradise with their priuate but liberties about strumpets, where no weapon (as in Adams Paradise) should bee named: but onely the Angell of prouidence stand with a fiery sword at the gate, to keep out our enemies.

A Perturbation of mind (like vnto Enuy) is Wrath, which looketh farre lower than the former: For whereas Enuy cannot be safed to bee, but in respect of our Superiours, Wrath respecteth no degrees nor persons. but is equally armed agaynst all that offende him. A hare-brained little Dwarf he is, with a swarth visage, that hath his hart at his tongues end, if he be contraride, and will be sure to do no right nor take no wrong. If hee bee a Iudge or a Iustice, (as some-times the Lyon comes to giue sentence agaynst the Lamb) then he sweares by nothing but by Saint Cyborne, & makes Newgate a Romaine Substantiue,

The complaint of Wrath, a branch of Enuy.

Little men for the most part are most angry.

D

wher-

Pierce Penileſſe his

New gate,
a common
name for al
prifons, as
Homo is a
common
name for a
man or a
woman.

A tale of a
wife
Juſtice.

The na-
ture of the
Irish man

whereto all his other words are but Adiectiues. Lightly hee is an olde man : (for those yeares are most wayward and teatiſh) yet he neuer ſo old or ſo ſtoward, ſince Quarice like-wiſe is a fellow vice of thoſe fraile yeares, wee muſt ſet one extreame to ſtrive with another, and alay the anger of oppreſſion, by the ſweet incenſe of a newe purſe of angels : or the dotting Planet may haue ſuch predominance in theſe wicked Elders of Iſrael, that if you ſend your wiſe or ſome other female to plead for you, ſhee may get your pardon vpon promiſe of better acquaintance. But whiſt, theſe are the workes of darkneſſe and may not be talkt of in the day time : fury is a heate or fire, & muſt bee quencht with maidens water.

Amongſt other cholericke wiſe Juſtices, he was one, that hauing a play preſented before him and his Towne-ſhip, by Tarlton and the reſt of his fellowes her Paleſties ſeruants, and they were now entering into their firſt merriment (as they call it) the people began exceedingly to laugh, when Tarlton firſt peeped out his head. Whereat the Juſtice not a little moued, and ſeeming with his becke and nods hee could not make them ceaſe, he went with his ſtaffe, and beat them round about vnnmercifully on the bare pates, in that they being but Farmers & poore countrey Hyndes would preſume to laugh at the Queenes men, and make no more account of her cloath in his preſence.

The cauſes conducting vnto wrath are as diuers, as the actions of a mans life. Some will take on like a mad man, if they ſee a pigge come to the table. Sotericus the Surgeon was cholericke at the ſight of Surgeon. The Iriſhman will drawe his dagger, and bee ready to kill and ſlay, if one breake winde in his company : and ſo ſome of our Engliſh men that are ſouldiers, if one giue them the hye : but theſe are light matters, whereof Pierce complaineth not.

Be aduertised Paſſer *Os ſætidum*, Bedle of the Blacke-ſmitheſ, that Lawyers cannot deuife which way in the world to begge, they are ſo troubled with brabblements and ſutes cuery Tearme, of Deomen and Gentlemen that fall out for nothing.

If Iohn a Nokes his henne doo but leap into Elizabeth de Gappes cloſe, ſhee will neuer leaue to haunt her huſband, till he bring it to a *Niſiprius*. Doe while, the Parſon ſueth the
partly-

Supplication to the Dinell.

parishioner for bringing home his tythes : another while, the parishioner sueth the Parson for not takinge away his Tythes in time.

I heard a tale of a Butcher, who driving two Calves over a Com-mon, that were coupled together by the neckes with an Oken With, in the way wher they shold passe, there lay a poore leane Mare with a galde backe, to whome they coming (as chance fell out) one of one side, and the other of the other, smelling on her (as their manner is) the midst of the With that was betwixt their necks, rubb her and grated her on the soze backe, that shee started and rose vp, and bung them both on her backe as a beame, which being but a rough plaister to her raw ulcer, shee ran away with them (as she were fran-tick) into the fens, where the Butcher could not follow them, and drownde both her selfe and them in a Quagmyze. Now the owner of the Mare is in lawe with the Butcher for the losse of his Mare, and the Butcher enterchangably endites him for his Calves. I praye Timothy Tempter, bee an Arbitrator betwixt them, and couple them both by the neckes (as the Calves were) and carry them to hel on your backe, and then I hope they will be quiet.

A merry tale of a Butcher & his Calves

The chiefe spur vnto wrath is Drunkennes, which as the touch of an Ashenbough, causeth a gidiness in the Wipers head, and the Batte lightly strooke with the leafe of a Tree, loseth his remembrance: so they being but lightly sprinkled with the iuyce of the Hop, become sencelesse, and haue their reason strook en blind, as soone as euer the Cup scaleth the Fortresse of their Nose. Then run their words at random like a dog that hath lost his master, and are hyppie with this man and that man, and generally inuay against al men : but those that keep a wet corner for a friend, and will not thinke scoyme to drinke with a good fellowe and a Shouldiour : and so long do they practisc this vaine on their Ale-bench, that when they are sober they cannot leaue it. There be those that get their living al the peere long, by nothing but rayling.

Not farre from Chester, I knewe an odde foule mouthde knaue, called Charles the Fryer, that had a face so parboyled with menspitting on it, and a backe so often knighted in Bide-well, that it was impossible for any shame or punishment, to terri-

A tale of one Fryer Charles, a foule mouthde knaue.

Pierce Penilesse his

He him from ill speaking, No'lemen he would liken to moze big-
 ly things than himself: some to A ster my hartie commendations,
 with a pass over the head: others, to guilded chimes of beefe, or
 a Shoemaker sweating, when he puls on a shoe: another to an old
 verse in Cato, *Ad consilium ne accesseris antequam voceris*: ano-
 ther, to a Spanish Copysse: another, that his face was not yet fi-
 nish't, with such like innumerable absurd illusions: yea, what
 was he in the Court, but he had a comparison instead of a Cap-
 tase to put him in. Upon a time being chalenged at his owne wea-
 pon in a priuate Chamber, by a great personage, (rayling I
 meane) he so far outstript him in vilanious words, and ouerban-
 died him in bitter tearmes, that the name of spoze could not per-
 swade him patience, noz containe his furie in any degrees of it all,
 but needs hee must wreake himselfe vppon him: neither would a
 common reuenge suffice him, his displeasure was so infinite (and
 it may be common reuenges he tooke befoze, as far as the whip-
 cord would stretch, vpon like prouokements) wherefoze he cau-
 sed his men to take him, and byck't him vp in a narrow chimney,
 that was *Neque maior neque minor corpore locato*, where he fed
 him for fiftene dayes with bread and water through a hole, let-
 ting him sleep standing if he would, for lye or sit he could not, and
 then he let him out to see if he could learne to rule his tongue any
 better.

It is a disparagement to those that haue any true sparke of
 Gentilitie, to be noted of the whole world so to delight in detract-
 ing, that they should keepe a benemious tooth'd Cur, and feed him
 with the crums that fall from their table, to do nothing but bite e-
 uery one by the shins that passe by. If they will needs be merry,
 let them haue a foole and not a knaue to disport them, and seeke
 some other to bestow their almes on, than such an impudent beg-
 ger.

As there be those that rayle at all men, so there be those that
 rayle at all Arts, as Cornelius Agrippa *De vanitate scientia-
 rum*, and a Treatise that I haue seene in dispraise of learning,
 where he saith, it is the corrupter of the simple, the schoolemaister
 of flie, the storehouse of treacherie, the reuiuer of vices, and mo-
 ther of cowardiz, alledging many examples, how there was ne-
 ver man egregiously euill, but he was a Scholler: that when the
 vsc

Supplication to the Diuell.

Use of letters was first inuented, the Golden World ceased, *Facinusque inuasit mortales*: how studie dooth effeminate a man, dim his sight, weaken his braine, and ingender a thousand diseases. Small learning would serue to confesse so manifest a scandale, and I imagine all men like my selfe so vnmoueable resolved of the excellencie thereof, that I will not by the underpropping of confutation seeme to giue the idle witted aduersarye so much encouragement, as hee should surmize his superficiall arguments had shaken the foundation of it: against which hee could neuer haue lifted his penne, if her selfe had not helpt him to hurte her selfe.

An inuective against enemies of Poetrie.

With the enemies of Poetrie, I care not if I haue a bout, and those are they that tear me out best Writers but babling Ballad-makers, holding them fantasticall fooles, that haue wit, but cannot tell how to vse it, I my selfe haue beene so censured among some dul-beade. * Diuines: who deeme it no more cunning to wryte an exquisite Poem, than to prech pure Caluim, or distill the iustice of a Commentary in a quarter Sermon, to wote it when you will, you slowe spirited Saturnists, that haue nothing but the pilferies of your penne, to pollicke an exhortation withall: no eloquence but Tautologies, to tie the eares of your Auditorpe vnto you: no inuention but heere is to be noted, I stole this note out of Beza or Marlorat: no wit to moue, no passion to vge, but onely an ordinarie forme of preaching, blowne up by vse of often hearing and speaking: and you shall finde there goes more exquisite paines and puritie of witte, to the writing of one such rare Poem as Rosamond, than to a hundred of your dunsicall Sermons.

Abste arrogantia, that this speeche should concerne all diuines, but such dunces as abridge men of their lawfull liberty and care not howe vnprepared they speake to their Auditorie.

Should we (as you) borrowe all out of others, and gather nothing of our selues, our names should bee battuld on euery Booke-sellers Stall, and not a Chanders Mustard-pot but would wipe his mouche with our wast paper. Newe Herrings, new, we must crye, every time wee make our selues publike, or else we shall bee christened with a hundred newe tytles of Idiotisme. Now in Poetrie an Arte, wherof there is no vse in a mans whole lfe, but to describe discontented thoughts and yout full desires: for there is no studie, but it dooth illustrate and beautifie. How admirable shone those Di-

Such Sermons I meane as our sectuaries preach in ditches and other Conuenticles when they leape from the Coblers stal to their pulpits,

Pierce Penileffe his

times about the common mediocritie, that haue tasted the sweete
springs of *Parnassus*

Encomium
H. Smithi.

Siluer tongu'o Smith whose well tun'd stile hath made thy
death the generall teares of the Muses, queintlie couldst thou de-
uise beauenly Ditties to Apollos Lute, and teach stately verse
to trip it as smoothly, as if Ouid and thou had but one soule.
Hence alone did it proceed, that thou wert such a plausible pulpit
man that before thou entrest into the rough waies of Theologie,
thou refinedst, preparedst, and purifiedst thy minde with sweete
Poetrie. If a simple mans censure may be admitted to speake in
such an open Theater of opinions, I neuer saw abundant rea-
ding better mixt with delight, or sentences which no man can
challenge of prophane affectation, sounding more melodious to
the eare or piercing more deepe to the heart.

The fruits
of Poetry

To them that demaund what fruites the Poets of our time
bring forth, or wherein they are able to proue themselves neces-
sary to the state. Thus I answer. First and for most, thy haue
cleansed our language from barbarisme and made the vulgar
tong here in *London* (which is the fountaine whose riuers flowe
round about *England*) to aspire to a richer puritie of speach, than
is communicated with the Comminaltie of any Nation vnder
heauen. The vertuous by their praises they encourage to be more
vertuous, to vicious men they are as infernall bags to haunt their
ghosts with eternall infamie after death. The Souldier in hope
to haue his high deeds celebrated by their pens, despiseth a whole
Armie of perills, and acteth wonders exceeding all humane con-
jecture. Those that care neither for God nor the diuell, by their
quills are kept in awe. *Multi famam (saith one) pauci conscien-
tiam verentur.*

Let God see what he will, they would be loath to haue the
P lin. l. b. 3. shame of the world. What age will not praise immortal Sir Phil-
lip Sidney, whom noble Salustius (that thrice singular french
Poet) hath famoused: together with Sir Nicholas Bacon Lord
keeper, & merry sir Thomas Moore, for the chiefe pillars of our
english spee ch. Not so much but Chaucers host, Baly in South-
worke, & his wife of Bath he keeps such a stirre with, in his *Can-
terbury* tales, shalbe talkt of whilst the Bath is vnde, or there be
euer a badhouse in Southworke. Gentles, it is not your lay Chro-
nographers

Supplication to the Diuell.

nigrapers, that write of nothing but of Payors and Sheriells
and the deare peece, and the great Frost, that can endowe your
names with neuer dated glozy: for they want the wings of choise
wozds to fly to heauen, which we haue: they cannot sweeten a
dis course, or wpest admiration from men reading, as we can: re-
porting the meanest accident. Poetry is the hunny of all flowers,
the quintessence of all Sciences, the Harrowe of Witte, and the
very Phrase of Angels: how much better is it then to haue an
ellegant Lawier to plead ones cause, than a stutting Townsman
that loseth himselfe in his tale, and doth nothing but make legs:
so much it is better for a Nobleman or Gentleman, to haue his
honours Rozy related, and his deedes emblazoned by a Poet, than
a Citizen.

The dis-
praise of
laic chro-
nigraphers

Alas poore latinelesse Authozs, they are so simple they know
not what they doe; They no sooner spy a new Ballad, and his
name to it that compile it: but they put him in for one of the lear-
ned men of our time, I maruell how the Pastierlesse men, that
set vp their bills in Pauls for seruices, & such as passe by their
papers on euery post, for Arithmetique and writing Schooles,
scape eternity amongst them; I beleue both they and the Knighe
Barshals men, that naile vp Mandates at the Court gate, for an-
noying the Pallace with filth or making water, if they set their
names to the writing, will shortly make vp the number of the
learned men of our time, and be as famous as the rest. For my
part I do challenge no praise of learning to my selfe, yet haue I
wozne a gowne in the Uniuersitie, and so hath *ceteris temporibus non*
habet moribus: but this I dare presume that if any Meccenas
binde me to him by his bounty or extend some sound liberalitie to
mee wozth the speaking of, I will doo him as much honour as
any Poet of my beardlesse peeres shall in England. Not that I
am so confident what I can doe, but that I attribute so much to
my thankfull minde aboue others, which I am perswaded would
enable me to worke myacles.

On the contrary side, if I bee euill intreated, or sent away
with a Flea in mine eare, let him looke that I will raile on him
soundly: not for an houre or a day, whiles the iniury is fresh in
my memory: but in soire elaborate polished Poem, which I
will leaue to the world when I am dead, to be a liuing Image

Pierce Penilesse his

I wold tell
you in
what book
it is, but I
am a fraid
it would
make his
booke sell
in his lat-
ter daies,
which he-
therto
hath lien
dead and
beene a
great losse
to the
Printer.

Looke at
the Chan-
dlers shop,
or at the
Flaxwies
stall, if you
see no tow
nor Sope
wrapt vp-
pon the ti-
tle page of
such a
Pamphlet,
as Incerti
Authoris
Iopran.

to all ages, of his beggerly parsimony and ignoble illiberalitic: and let him not (whatsoever he be) measure the weight of my words by this booke, where I write *Quic quid in buccam venerit*, as fast as my hand can trot: but I haue tearmes (if I be vext) laid in sleepe in *Aqua fortis*, & Gunpowder, that shall rattle through the Skyes, and make an Earthquake in a Pefants eares. Put case (since I am not yet out of the Cheame of Wrath) that some tired Iade belonging to the Presse, whom I neuer wronged in my life; hath named me expressely in Print (as I will not do him) and accuse me of want of learning, vpbraiding me for reuiling in an epistle of mine the reuerent memory of Sir Thomas Moore, Sir Iohn Cheeke, Docto^r Watson, Docto^r Had- don, Docto^r Carre, Maister Ascham, as if they were no meate but for his Maisters lips mouth: or none but some such as the son of a ropemaker were worthy to mention them. To shewe how I can raile, thus would I begin to raile on him. Thou that hadst thy hood turned ouer thy eares when thou wert a Bachelor, for abusing of Aristotle, & setting him vpon the School gates pain- ted with Asses eares on his head: is it any discredit for me, thou great babound, thou Pigmie Braggart, thou Pamphlet of no- thing but * Peants, to bee censured by thee, that hast scorned the Prince of Philosophers; thou that in thy Dialogues soldst Hump for a halpenny, and the choicest Writers extant for cues a peece, that camest to the Logicke Schooles when thou wert a Fresh- man and writst phrases, off with thy gowne and vntresse, for I meane to lash thee mightily. Thou hast a Brother hast thou not, Student in Almanackes, go too Ile stand to it, fatherd one of thy bastards (a booke I meane) which being of thy begetting was set forth vnder his name.

Gentlemen, I am sure you haue hearde of a ridiculous Ass that many yeares since sold lyrics by the great, and wrote an ob- surd Astrologicall Discourse of the terrible Coniunction of Saturne and Iupiter, wherein (as if hee had lately cast the Hea- uens water, or beene at the anatomizing of the Skies intrailles in Surgeons hall) hee prophesied of such strange wonders to ensue from stars distemperature, and the vnusall arultrie of Planets, as none but he that is Bawd to those celestiall bodies, could euer discry. What expectation there was of it both in towne and

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Supplication to the Diuell.

and country, the amayement of those times may testifie: and the rather because he pawned his * credit vpon it, in these expresse termes; If these things fall not out in euery point as I haue wrote, let me for euer hereafter loose the credit of my Astronomie. Well so it happened, that he happened not to be a man of his word; his Astronomie broke his day with his creditors and Saturne and Iupiter prou'd honeste men then all the world took them for: whereupon, the poore prognosticator was ready to runne himselfe through with his Jacobs Staffe, and cast himselfe headlong from the top of a Globe (as a mountaine) and brake his necke. The whole Vniuersitie hyt at him, Tarlton at the Cheate made iests of him, and Elderton consumed his ale-crumbled nose to nothing, in beating him with whole bundles of ballers. Would you in likely reason gesse it were possible for my shame-swolne toad to haue the spot-proofe face to out lue this disgrace? It is deare brethren, *Vniū imo vniū*, and which is more, he is a Vicar.

Which at home was worth a dozen of halters at least, for if I be not deceiued his father was a Rope-maker.

Poore Slave. I pitie thee that thou hadst no more grace but to come in my way, Why, could not you haue sat quiet at home, and write Catechismes, but you must be comparing me to Martin? and exclaime against me for reckoning vp the high Schollers of worthy memory? *Iupiter ingenio praebeat sua numina vatum*, saith Ouid: *Seque celebrari quolibet ore sinit*. Which if it be so, I hope I am *Aliquis*, and those men quos honoris causa nominamus, are not greater than gods. He thinks I see thee stand quivering and quaking, and euen now lift vp thy hands to heauen, as thanking God my choler is somewhat asswag'd: but thou art deceiued, for how euer I let fall my stile a little to talke in reason with thee that hast none, I do not meane to let thee scape so.

Thou hast wronged one for my sake (whom for the name I must loue) T. N. the Master Butler of Pembroke Hall, a farre better Scholler than thy selfe (in my iudgement) and one that sheweth more discretion and gouernment, in setting vp a life of Bread, than thou in all thy whole booke. Why man, thinke no scozne of him for he hath held thee vp a hundred times, whiles the Deane hath giuen thee correction, and thou hast rapt and kneed him (when thou wert hungry) for a chipping. But that is nothing, for hadst thou neuer bene beholding to him, nor holden

Pierce Penilesse his

His owne
words.

by him, he hath a Beard that is a better Gentleman than all
thy whole body, and a graue countenance like Cato, able to make
thee run out of thy wits for feare, if he looke sternly vpon thee. I
haue reade ouer thy Sheeplish discourse of the Lambe of G O D
and his enemies, and entreated my patience to be good to thee
whilst I reade: but for all that I could doe with my selfe, (as I
am sure I may doe as much as another man) I could not re-
fraine, but bequeath it to the Printer, leafe by leafe as I read it,
it was so ugly, doo bellicall and lumpy. Monstrous, monstrous,
and palpable, not to bee spoken of in a Christian Congregation:
thou hast skumb ouer thy Schoolemen, and of the froch of they?
folly, made a dish of diuinitie Brewesse, which the dogges will
not eate. If the Printer haue any great dealings with thee, bee
were best to get a priuledge betimes, *Ad imprimendum solum*,
forbidding all other to sell waste paper but himselfe, or else he will
bee in a wofull taking. The Lambe of God make thee a wiser
Bell-weather then thou art, or else I doubt thou wilt be driuen to
leane all and fall to thy fathers occupation, which is, to goe and
make a rope to hang thy selfe. *Neque enim Lex equior vlla est,*
quam necis artifices arte perire sua: and so I leane thee till a bet-
ter opportunity, to bee commented world without end, of our Po-
ets and Writers about London, whome thou hast called piperpe
Wake-playes and Wake-bates: not doubting but bee also whom
thou tearme the vaine Pap-hatcher, will haue a flurt at thee
one day: all soynely wishing thee to this issue, that thou shalt bee
constrained to go to the chiefe Beame of thy Banister, and there
beginning a lamentable speech with *cur scripsi, cur perii*, end with
paruum praua decent, inuit inconcessa voluptas, and so with a
trice, trusse by thy life in the string of thy Sancebell. So be it,
pray Pen, Incke and paper on their knees, that they may not bee
troubled with thee any more.

Redeo ad vos mei Auditores, haue I not a indifferent prettye
bayne in Spurgalling an All: if you knew how extemporal it
were at this instant, and with what hast it is what you would say
to. But I would not haue you thinke that all this that is set
downe heere, is in good earnest, for then you goe by S. Gyles,
the wrong way to Westminster: but onely to shewe howe for a
neede I could ruple, if I were thoroughly fyled. So be, Honiger
Ham-

Supplication to the Diuell.

Hammon, where are you all this while. I cannot be acquainted with you: Tell me what doe you thinke of the case, am I subject to the sinne of Wrath I write against or no, in wetting my penne on this blocke. I know you would faine haue it so, but it shall not choose but be other wise for this once. Come on let vs turne ouer a new leafe, and heare what Gluttonie can say for her selfe, for Wrath hath spent his popson, and full platters doe well after extreame purging.

The Romaine Emperours that succeeded Augustus, were exceedingly giuen to this horrible vice, whereof some of them would feed on nothing but the tongues of Phesants and Nightingales: other, would spend as much at one banquet, as a kings reuenues came to in a yeare, whose excesse I would decypher at large, but that a new Laureat hath sauid me the labor: who for a man that stands vpon paines and not wit, hath performed as much as any Storie dresser may doo, that sets a new English nap on an old Latine Apothegs. It is enough for me to like dishes heere at home, though I feed not mine eyes at any of the Romaine feasts, Much good doe it you Maister Dives heere in London: for you are he my pen meanes to dine withall. *Miserere mei*, what a fat churle it is! Why, he hath a belly as big as the round Chert in Cambridge, a face as huge as the whole bodie of a base viall, and legs that if they were hollow, a man might keepe a mill in eyther of them. *Experto credo Roberto*, there is no man like a Marchants table. *Bona fide*, it is a great misfortune, that we haue not men swine as well as beasts, for then we should haue porke that hath no more bones than a pudding, and a slice of bacon that you might lay vnder your head in stead of a bolster.

It is not for nothing, that other Countries whom we vppbraide with Drunkenesse, call vs burthen-bellied Gluttons: for we make our greedie paunches powdering tubs of beefe, and eat more meat at one meale, than the Spaniard or Italian in a moneth. Good thyselfe me, they draw out a dinner with sailets, like a Swart-suiters sute, and make Madona Nature their best Caterer. We must haue our Tables furnisht like Poulters stalls, or as though we were to victual Noahs Arke again (wherein there was all sorts of liuing creatures that euer were) or els the good-wife will not

The complaint of
Gluttonie.

Nature, in
England is
but plaine
Dame, but
in Spaine
and Italy
(because
they haue
more vse
of her than
we) she is
dubbed a
Ladie.

Pierce Penilelle his

open her mouth to bid one welcome. A stranger that should come to one of our *Magnificoes* houses, when dinner were set on the board, and he not yet set, would thinke the goodman of the house were a *Haberdaiber* of *Milde-fowle*, or a *Merchant venturer* of daintie meate, that sels commodities of good cheere by the great, and hath *Factozs* in *Arabia*, *Turkey*, *Egypt*, and *Barbarie*, to provide him of strange *Birdes*, *China Mustard*, and odde patterns to make *Custards* by.

Lord, what a cople haue we with this Course and that course, remoouing this dish higher, setting another lower, and taking away the third. A *Generall* might in lesse space remooue his *Campe*, than they stand disposing of their *gluttonie*. And whereto tends all this *gurmandise*, but to giue sleepe grosse humors to feede on, to corrupt the braine, and make it vnapt and vnweldie for any thing.

The *Romane Censors*, if they lighted vpon a fat corpulent man, they straight tooke away his horse, and constrained him to goe a foote: positively concluding, his carkasse was so puffed vp with *gluttonie* or idlenesse. If we had such horse-takers among vs, and that surlic-swolne *Charles*, who now ride on their foot-cloathes, might be constrained to carrie their flesh budgets from place to place on foote, the price of belket and cloath would fall with their belies, and the gentle craft (alias the red herrings kind-men) get more and drinke lesse. *Plenus venter nil agit libenter, & plures gula occidit quam gladius*. It is as desperate a peece of seruice, to sleepe vpon a full stomacke, as it is to serue in face of the bullet: a man is but his breath, and that may as well be stopp'd by putting too much in his mouth at once, as running on the mouth of the cannon. That is verified of vs, which *Horace* writes of an outrageous eater in his time, *Quicquid quesierat ventri donabat auaro*, Whatsoeuer he could rap or rend, he confiscated to his covetous gut. Nay, we are such flesh-eating *Saracens*, that chaff fish may not content vs, but we delight in the murder of innocent mutton, in the vnpluming of pullerie, and quartering of *Talies* and *Oren*. It is horrible and detestable, no godly fishmonger that can digest it. *Exposit* (which our moderners clippe *stunning* *same*) puts me in memorie of a notable iest I heard long agoe of *Doctor Watson*, verie condu cible to the reproole of these flesh-

A rare wit-
ticiest of
Doctor
Watson.
Or rather

Supplication to the Diuell,

Beshly minded Belials. he beeing at supper on a fasting of fish night at least, with a great number of his friends and acquaintance, there chanced to be in the company an outlandish Doctor, who when all other fell to such victuals (agreeing to the time) as were before them, he out stript them, and there being one ioynt of flesh on the table for such as had weake stomacks, fell freshly to it. After that hunger (halfe conquered) had restored him to the vse of his speach, for his excuse he said to his friend that brought him thither, *Profecto Domine, ego sum malissimus piscator*, meaning by *piscator*, a Fishman: (which is a liberty, as also *malissimus*, that outlandish men in theyr familiar talke do challenge, at least vnto vs,) *At tu es bonissimus carnifex*, quoth Doctor Watson, retorting very merily his owne licentious figures vpon him. So of vs may it be said we are *Malissimi piscatores*, but *bonissimi carnifices*. I would English the iest for the edification of the temporallite, but that it is not so good in English as in Latine: and though it were as good, it would not conuert clubs and clowted Schoone from the flesh pots of Egypt, to the Prouant of the Lowecountries, for they had rather (with the Seruingman) put vp a Supplication to the Parliament house, that they might haue a pard of pudding for a penie, than desire (with the Baker) there might bee thre ounces of bread sold for a halfe penie.

Alphonfus King Phillips Confessor, that came ouer with him to England, was such a moderate man in his dyet, that hee would feed but once a day, and at that time he would feed so slenderly and sparingly, as scarce serued to keepe life and soule together, one night importunately invited to a solemne banquet, for fashion sake, he sate downe among the rest, but by no entreatie could he be moued to eate any thing: at length fruite beeing set on the boord, he reacht an apple out of the dish, and put it in his pocket, which one marking, that sat right ouer against him, askt him, *Domine cur es sollicitus in crastinum*? Sir, why are you carefull for the morrow? Whereto he answered most soberly, *Imo hoc facio mi amice, vt ne sim sollicitus in crastinum*: No, I doo it my friend, that I may not be carefull for the morrow: as though his appetite were a whole day contented with so little as an apple, and that it were enough to paye the morrowes tribute to Nature.

Belly-als,
because all
their minde
is on their
belly.

The moderate
ration of
Fryer Alphonso,
K. Philips
Confessor.

111. **Pierce Penilesse his**

The strang
alteration
of the
Countie
Molines
the Prince
of Parmas
Compani-
on.

Rare and worthy to be registered to all posterities; is the Countie Molines (sometime the Prince of Parmas Companion) altered course of life, who being a man that lived in as great pompe and delicacie, as was possible for a man to doo, and one that wanted nothing but a kingdome that his heart could desire. Upon a day entering into a deepe melancholy by himselfe; hee fell into a disconsolate consideration, what this world was, how vaine and transitory the pleasures thereof, and how many times he had offended God by surtetting, gluttony, drunkenness, pride, whooredome and such like, and how hard it was for him that liu'd in that prosperitie that he did, not to be entangled with those pleasures: whereupon he presently resolu'd twixt God and his owne conscience, to forsake it and al his allurements, and betake him to the severest forme of life vled in their state. And with that cald all his Souldiers and acquaintance together, and making known his intent vnto them, he distributed his liuing and possessions (which were infinite) amongst the poore of them: and hauing not left himselfe the worth of one farthing vnder heauen, betooke him to the most beggerly new erected Order of the Fryer Capuchines. Their Institution is, that they shall possesse nothing whatsoeuer of their owne, more than the cloathes on their backs, continually go bare foote, weare haire shirts, and lie vpon the hard boards winter and summer time, they must haue no meate, nor aske any but what is giuen them voluntarily, nor must they lay by from any meale to meale but giue it to the poore, or els it is a great penaltie. In this seuerer humilitie liues this deuout Countie, and hath done this tweluemonth submitting himselfe to all the base vudgerie of the house, as fetching water, making cleane the rest of their chambers, insomuch as he is the Iunior of the Order. What a notable rebuke were his honourable Lowlines to succeeding pride, if this prostrate spirit of his were not the seruant of Superstition: or hee mispent not his good workes on a wrong Faith.

Let but our English belly-gods punish their purtie bodies with this strict penance, and professe Capuchinisme but one month, and Ile be their pledge they shall not grow so like dy-fats as they doo. It will make them iolly long winded to troc up and downe the Doxter streets, and the water-tankard will keepe

Supplication to the Diuell.

keepe vnder the insurrection of their shoulders, the haire shirt will chafe to worke out of their boanes, and the hard lodging on the boards take their flesh downe a button hole lower.

But if they might be iaduced to distribute all their goods amongst the poore, it were to be hoped Saint Peter would let them dwell in the suburbs of heauen, whereas other wise they must keepe aloofe at Pancredge, and not come neer the liberties by fise leagues and aboue. It is your dooing (Diotrephes Diuell) that these stal-fed cormorants to damnation, must bung vp all the wetch of the Land in their snaphaunce bags, and poore Scholers and Souldiers wander in backe lanes, and the out-bittes of the Citie, with neuer a rag to their backs: but our trust is, that by some intemperance or other, you will turne vp their heeles one of these yeares together, and prouide them of such vntzifts to their heires, as shall spend in one weeke amongst good fellows, what they got by extortion and oppression from Gentlemen all their life time.

The com-
plaint of
drunken-
nes.

Drinking
supernagu-
lum, a de-
uise of
drinking
new come

FROM Gluttony in meates, let me disceind to superfluitie in drinke: a sinne, that cuer since we haue mixt our selues with the Low-countries, is counted honourable: but before we knew their lingring warres, was held in that highest degree of hatred that might be. Then if we had seene a man goe wallowing in the streets, or lye sleeping vnder the boord, we would haue spit at him as a coade, and cald him foule drunken swine, and warnd al our friends out of his company: now he is no body that cannot drinke *super nagulum*, carouse the Hunters hoop, quaffe *upsy freze crosse*, with heathes, gloues, mumpes, frolickes, and a thousand such dominating inuentions. He is reputed a pesant and a poore that will not take his licour profoundly. And you shall heare a Cavalier of the first feather, a pyncockes that was but a Page the other day in the Court, and now is all to be frenchified in his Souldiers sute, stand bypon termes with Gods wounds you dishonour me sir, you do me the disgrace if you do not pledge me as much as I drinke to you: and in the midst of his cups stand vaunting his manhood: beginning euerie sentence, with when I first boze Armes, when he neuer bare any thing but his Lords rapier after him in

out of
Fraunce:
which is,
after a man
hath turnd
vp the bot-
tom of the
cup, to
drop it on
his naile &
make a
pearle with
that is left,
which if it
shed & he
cannot
make stand
on, by rea-
son thers
too much,
he must
drinke a-
gaine for
his pen-
nance,

Pierce Penile Se his

his life. If he haue beene ouer and visited a towne of Garrison as a traualler or passenger, he hath as great experience as the greatest Commander and chiefe Leader in *England*. A mightie Deformer of mens manners and features, is this vnnecessary vice of all other. Let him bee indued with neuer so many vertues, and haue as much goodly proportion and fauour as nature can bestow vppon a man: yet if hee be churle after his owne destruction, and hath no ioy nor comfort, but when he is drowning his soule in a gallon pot, that one beastly imperfection, will vtterlie obscure all that is commendable in him: and all his good qualities sinke like lead down to the bottome of his carousing cups, where they will lie like lees and dregges, dead and vregarded of any man.

Clim of the clough, thou that vnest to drinke nothing but scalding lead and sulphur in hell, thou art not so greedie of thy night geare. O, but thou hast a foule swallow, if it come once to carousing of humane blood, but thats but sel dome once in seauen yeare, when theres a great execution, otherwise thou art ride at rack and manger, and drinkest nothing but the Aqua vitæ of vengeance all thy life time. The proverbe giues it forth, thou art a knaue, and therefore I haue more hope thou art some manner of good fellowe: let mee intreate thee (since thou hast other iniquities enough to circumuent vs withall) to wipe this sin out of the catalogue of thy subtilties; helpe to blast the vines that they may beate no more grapes, and sowre the wines in the cellers of Marchants storehouses, that our Countrey-men may not pisse out all their witte and thrift against the walles. King Edgar, because his subiects should not offend in swilling and blbbing, as they did, caused certaine yron-cups to be chained to euery fountaine and wells side, and at euery Wintners doore, with yron pinnes in them, to stinte euery man how much he should drinke: and he that went beyond one of those pinnes forfeited a penny for euey draught. And if Stories were well searcht, I beleue hoopes in quart pots were inuented to that ende, that euery man should take his hoope, and no more. I haue heard it iustified for a trueth by great Personages, that the olde Marquesse of Pisana (who yet liues) drinks not once in seauen yeare: and I haue read of one Andron of *Argos*, that was

King Ed-
gars ordi-
nance a-
gainst
drinking

The won-
derful ab-
stinence
of the Mar-
ques of
Pisana yet
liuing.

Supplication to the Diuell.

was so seluome chitlie, that he traualled ouer the hote burning lands of *Lybia*, and neuer drank. Then why should our colde Climate bring forth such fierie throates. As we more chitlie than *Spaine* and *Italy* where the Sunnes force is doubled: The *Germanes* and lowe *Dutch*, me thinks should bee continually kept moyst with the foggie aire and stinking mists that arise out of their fennie soyle: but as their Countrey is ouer-flown with water, so are their heads alwaies ouer-flown with wine, and in their bellies they haue standing quag-mires and boggs of *Englishe* beere.

One of their breede it was that writ the Booke *De Arte bibendi*: a worshipfull treatise, fitte for none but *Silenus* and his Ass to set forth: besides that volume, we haue generall rules and iniunctions, as good as printed precepts, or Statutes set downe by Acts of Parliament that goe from drunkard to drunkard; as still to keepe your fist man, not to leaue any flockes in the bottome of the cup, to knock the glasse on your thumbe when you haue done, to haue some shooing bozne to pul on your wine, as a rashe of the coles, or a redde herring, to stirre it about with a candle sende to make it taste better, and not to holde your peace whiles the pot is stirring.

The cruell
lawes a-
mongst
drunkards

Now haue we one or two kinde of drunkards onely, but eight kindes. The first is Ape drunke, and he leapes, and sings, and hollowes, and daunceth for the heauens: the second is Lion drunke, and he flings the pots about the house, calls his Hostesse whoze, breakes the glasse windowes with his dagger, and is apt to quarrell with any man that speaks to him: the third is Swine drunke, heavy, bumptie, and sleepe, and cries for a little more drinke, and a few more cloathes: the fourth is Sheepe drunke, wise in his owne conceipt, when he cannot bring forth a right word, the fifth is Pardolen drunke, when a fellowe will weepe for kindnes in the midst of his Ale, and kisse you, saying; By God Captaine I loue thee, goe thy waies thou dost not thinke so often of me as I do of thee, I would (if it pleased *GOODY*) I could not loue thee so well as I doo, and then he puts his finger in his eye, and cries: the sixt is Martin drunke, when a man is drunke and drinkes himselfe sober ere he stirre: the seuenth is Goate drunke, when in his drunkennes he hath no minde

The eight
kindes of
drunken-
nesse.

Pierce Penilesse his

but on Lechery: the eighth is *Fore drunke*, when he is craftie drunke, as many of the Dutchmen bee, will neuer bargain but when they are drunke. All these species and moze I haue scene practised in one Company at one sitting, when I haue bene permitted to remaine sober amongst them, onely to note their seuerall humors. He that plies any one of them hard, it will make him to write admirable verses, to haue a deepe casting head, though hee were neuer so verie a Duncce before.

The discomforts of drunkenness.

Gentlemen, all you that will not haue your braynes twisse sodden, your flesh rotten with the Dropsie, that loue not to goe in greasie dublets, stockings out at the heeles, and weare alehouse daggers at your backs, forswear this flauering brauery, that will make you haue stinking breathes, and your bodies smell like Brewers aprons: rather keepe a snuffe in the bottome of the glasse to light you to bed withall, than leaue neuer an eye in your head to lead you ouer the threshold. It will bring you in your olde age to be companions with none but Porters and Car-men, to talke out of a Cage, railing as drunken men are wont, a hundred boies wondering about them; and to die sodanly as Fol Long the French did, drinking *Aqua vita*. From which (as all the rest) good Lord deliuer Pierce Penilesse.

The complaint of Sloth.

The nurse of this enormitie (as of all euills) is Idleness or sloth, which hauing no painfull prouince to set himselfe a worke, runnes headlong with the ragges in his owne hand into all lasciuiousnesse and sensualitye that may be. When when they are idle, and know not what to do, saith one let vs goe to the Stilliard and drinke Rhenish wine. Nay, if a man knew where a good whozhouse were saith another, it were somewhat like. Nay saith the third, let vs goe to a dining-house or a bowling alley, and there we shall haue some sport for our money. To one of these three, (at hand quoth pick-purse) your euill Angelship mai-ster man-headed beaſt conducts them, *Vbi quid agitur* betwixt you and their soules be it, for I am no Drawer, Box-keeper, or Winder, to be priuie to their sports. If I were to paint Sloth, (as I am not scene in the sweetening) by Saint Iohn the Euan-

Supplication to the Diuell.

Euangelist I sweare, I would draw it like a Stationer that I knowe, with his thumb vnder his girdle, who if a man come to his stall and aske him for a booke, neuer stirs his head, or looks vpon him, but stands stone still, and speaks not a word: onely with his little finger points backwards to his boy, who must be his interpreter, and so all the day gaping like a dumbe image he sits without motion, except at such times as he goes to dinner or supper: for then he is as quicke as other thre, eating sixe times euery day. If I would range abroad, and looke in at fluggards key holes, I should finde a number lying a bed to saue charges of ordinaries, in winter when they want firing, losing halfe a weeks Commons together, to keepe them warme in the linnen. And hold you content, this Summer an vnder-meale of an afternoone long doth not amisse to exercise the eyes withall. For men and Farmers somes that sweate much with eating harde cheese and drinking olde wine, must haue some moze ease than yong boyes that take their pleasure all day running vp and downe.

Setting iesting aside, I hold it a great disputable question which is a moze euill man, of him that is an idle glutton at home, or a retchlesse vnthrif abroad? The glutton at home doth nothing but engender diseases, pamper his flesh vnto lust, and is good for none but his owne gut: the vnthrif abroad exerciseth his bodie at dauncing schoole, fence schoole, tennis, and all such recreations: the dinners, the victuallers, the dicing houses, and who not, get by him. Suppose he lose a little now and then at play, it teacheth him wit: and how should a man know to eschew vices, if his owne experience did not acquaint him with their inconueniencies? *Omne ignotum pro magifico est*: that villany we haue made no assaies in, we admire. Besides, my vagrant Reuellet haunts plaies, & sharpens his wits with frequenting the company of poets; he emboldens his blushing face by courting faire women on the sodaine, and looke into all Estates, by conuersing with them in publike places. Nowe tell me whether of these two, the heauie headed gluttonous house doue, or this liuelie wanton yong Gallant, is like to prooue the wiser man, and better member in the Common-wealth. If my youth might not be thought partiall, the fine qualified Gentleman, although

Videlicet, before he come out of his bed, then a set breakfast, then dinner, then afternoons nunchings, a supper and a reuerie supper.

Which is better of the idle glutton, or vagrant vnthrif.

Pierce Penilesse his

vnknappe, should carrie it cleane away from the laxie clownish
draone.

The effects
of sloth.

Sloth in Nobilitie, Courtiers, Schollers, or any men is the
chiefest cause that brings them in contempt. For as industrie and
vnfatigable toyle rayseth meane persons from obscure houses
to high thrones of authoritie: so Sloath and sluggish securitie
causeth proud Lords to tumble from the towers of their starrie
discents, and be trod vnder foote of euery inferiour Belonian. Is
it the loslie treading of a Galliard, or fine grace in telling of a loue-
tale amongst Ladies, can make a man reuerent of the multitude?
no, they care not for the false glittering of gay garments, or insi-
nuating curtesie of a carper peere: but they delight to see him
shine in armour, and oppose himselfe to honourable daunger, to
participate a voluntarie penurie with his Souldiers, and relieue
part of their wants out of his owne purse. That is the course he
that will be popular must take, which if he neglect, and sit dally-
ing at home, nor will be awakt by any indignities out of his loue-
dreame, but suffer euery vpstart groome to desie him, let him at
naught, and shake him by the beard vntreuengde, let him straight
take orders, and be a Church-man, and then his patience may
passe for a vertue: but otherwise, he shall be suspected of coward-
ise, and not car'd for of any. The onely ennemie to Sloth, is con-
tention and emulation; as to propose one man to my selfe, that is
the onely myrrour of our Age, and strive to out-go him in vertue.
But this strife must be so tempered, that we fall not from the ea-
gernesse of praise, to the enuying of their persons: for then wee
leauie running to the goale of glorie, to spurne at a stone that lyeth
in our way; and so did Arlanto in the middelt of her course,
sloope to take vp the golden Apple that her ennemie scattered in
her way, and was out-ranne by Hippomenes. The contrarie
to this contention and emulation, is securitie, peace, quiet, tran-
quillitie, when we haue no aduersarie to pie into our actions, no
malicious eye, whose pursuing our priuate behauiour, might
make vs more vigilant ouer our imperfections, than otherwise
we would be.

The means
to auoide
Sloth.

That State or Kingdome that is in leagwe with all the world,
and hath no foraine sword to bere it, is not halfe so strong or con-
firmed to endure, as that which liues cuery houre in feare of in-
uasion.

Supplication to the Dittell.

uation. There is a certaine waste of the people for whom there is no vse, but warre: and these men must haue some employment till to cut them off: *Nam si for. as hostem non habent, domi inueni-*
unt. If they haue no seruice abroad, they will make mutinies at home. Or if the affayres of the State be such, as cannot exhale all these corrupt excrements, it is very expedient they haue some light toys to busie their heads withall, cast before them as bones to gnaw vpon, which may keepe them from hauing leisure to intermeddle with higher matters.

To this effect, the pollicie of Playes is very necessary, howe soeuer some shallow-brained censures (not the deepest searchers into the secrets of gouernment) mightily oppugne them. For whereas the after-noon being idlest time of the day; wherein men that are their owne masters, (as Gentlemen of the Court, the Ianes of the Courte, and the number of Captaines and Souldiers about London) do wholly bestow themselves vpon pleasure, and that pleasure they deuide (howe vertuously it shal not) either into gaming, following of harlots, drinking, or seeing a Playe: is it not then better (since of foure extreames all the world cannot keepe them but they will choose one) that they should betake them to the least, which is Playes? Nay, what if I proue Playes to be no extreame: but a rare exercise of vertue? First, for the subject of them (for the most part) it is borrowed out of our English Chronicles, wherein our forefathers valiant acts (that haue long buried in rustie brass, and worme-eaten bookes) are reuiued, and they themselves raised from the Graue of Obluion, and brought to pleade their aged Honours in open presence: than which, what can be a sharper reproofe to these degenerate effeminate dopes of ours.

How would it haue ioyed braue Talbot (the terror of the French) to thinke that after he had lyne two hundred years in his Tombe, hee should triumphe againe on the Stage, and haue his bones newe embalmed with the teares of ten thousand Spectators at least, (at severall times) who in the Tragedian that represents his person, imagine they behold him fresh bleeding.

I will defend it against any Collian, or clubb'd Usurer of them all, there is no immortallitie, can be giuen a man on earth

The defence of Playes.

Pierce Penilesse his

like vnto playes. What talke I to them of immortalitie, that are the onely vnderminers of Honour, and doe enuie any man that is not sprung vp by base Brokerie like themselves. They care not if all the auncient houses were rooted out, so that like the Burgomasters of the Low-countries they might share the gouernment amongst them as States. and be quarter-masters of our Monarchie. All Artes to them are vanitie: and if you tell them what a glorious thing it is to haue Henric the fifth represented on the Stage leading the French King prisoner, and forcing both him and the Dolphin to sweare fealty. I, but (will they say) what do we get by it? Respecting neither the right of Fame that is due to true Nobilitie deceased, nor what hopes of eternitie are to be proposed to aduenturous mindes, to encourage them forward, but onely their execrable laker, and filthy vnquenchable auarice.

They know when they are dead they shall not be brought vpon the Stage for any goodnes, but in a merriment of the Asurer and the Diuel, or buying Armes of the Herald, who giues them the Lyon without tongue, taylor, or tallents, because his master whom hee must serue is a Townesman, and a man of peace, and must not keepe any quarrelling beasts to annoy his honest neighbours.

The vse of
Playes.

In playes, all cossonages, all cunning drifts ouer-guylde with outward holinesse, all stratagems of warre, all the canker-wormes that breede on the rust of peace, are most liuely anatomiz'd: they shew the ill successe of treason, the fall of battie ladders, the wretched end of vsurpers, the miserie of ciuill dissention, and how iust God is euermore in punishing of murder. And to proue euery one of these allegations, could I propound the circumstances of this play and that play, if I meant to handle this Cheame otherwise than obiter. What should I say more? they are sower pills of reprehension wrapt vp in sweete words. Whereas some Petitioners of the Counsaile against them obiect, they corrupt the youth of the Cittie, and withdrawe Apprentises from their worke; they heartily wishe they might bee troubled with none of their youth nor their prentises; for some of them (I meane the ruder handicrafts seruants) neuer came abroad, but they are in danger of vndoing: and as for corrupting them when they

The confutation of
Citizens
obiectiōs
against
Playes.

Supplication to the Diuell.

they come, thats false; for no Play they haue; encourageth any man to tumults or rebellion, but layes befoze such the halter and the gallows; or praiseth or approoueth pride, lust, whoz dome, prodigalitie, or drunkennes, but beates them downe vtterly. As for the hindrance of Trades and Traders of the Citie by them, that is an Article foysted in by the Wintners, Alewiues, and Victuallers, who surmise if there were no Playes, they should haue all the companie that resort to them, lye bouzing and beere-batching in their houses euery after-noone. No? lo, no? so, good brother bottle-ale, for there are other places besides where money can bestow it selfe: the signe of the smock will wipe your mouth cleane; and yet I haue heard yee haue made her a tenant to your tap-houses. But what shall hee doo that hath spent himselfe? where shall hee haunt? Faith, when Dice, Lust, and Drunkenness, and all haue dealt vpon him, if there be neuer a Playe for him to goe too for his pennie, he sits melancholie in his Chamber, deuising vpon felonie or treason, and howe he may best exalt himselfe by mischief.

In Augustus time (who was the Patron of all wittie sports) there happened a great fraie in Rome about a Player, inso much as all the Citie was in an vprore: wherevpon, the Emperour (after the people was somewhat ouer-blowne) calde the Player befoze him, and aske what was the reason that a man of his qualitie, durst presume to make such a brawle about nothing. Hee smilingly replyde, It is good for thee O Caesar, that the peoples heads are troubled with brawles and quarrels about vs and our light matters: for otherwise they would looke into thee and thy matters. Read Lipsius or any prophane or Christian Politician, and you shall finde him of this opinion. Our Players are not as the players beyond sea, a sort of squirting haudie Comedians, that haue whores and common Curtizans to playe womens partes, and forbeare no immodest speech, or vnchast action that may procure laughter, but our Scenae is more statelie furnisht than euer it was in the time of Roscius, our representations honourable, and full of gallant resolution, not consisting like theirs of Pantaloun, a Whore, and a Janie, but of Emperours, Kings and Princes: whose true Tragedies (*Sophocleo cothurno*) they doo haunt.

A Players
wittie an-
swere to
Augustus.

A compa-
rison twixt
our Plaier,
and the
Players
beyond
the Sea.

Not

The due
commen-
dation of
Ned Allen.

Not Roscius nor Alope those admyred tragedians that haue liued euer since before Christ was borne, could euer performe moze in action, than famous Ned Allen. I must accuse our Poets of sloth and partialitie that they will not boast in large impressions what worthy men (aboue all Nations) England affords. Other Countreies cannot haue a fidler by cake a string, but they will put it in print, and the old Romanes in the writings they published, thought scozne to vse any but domestical examples of their owne hom-bred Actoys, Schollers and Champions, and them they would extoll to the thirde and fourth Generation: Coblers, Tinkers, Fencers, none escape them, but they mingled them all in one Callimachey of glory.

Peere I haue vsed a like Method, not of tyng my selfe to mine owne Countreie, but by insisting in the experience of our time: and if I euer write any thing in Latine, (as I hope one day I shall) not a man of any desert here amongst vs, but I will haue by. Tarlton, Ned Allen, Knell, Bentlie, shall be made knowne to France, Spaine, and Italie: and not a part that they surmounted in, moze than other, but I will there note and set downe, with the manner of theyr habites and attyre.

The se-
uenth and
last com-
plaint of
Lecherie.

The childe of Sloath is Lecherie, which I haue plac't last in my order of handling: a sinne that is able to make a man wicked that shoud describe it; for it hath moze starting holes, than a fine bath holes, moze Clyents than Westminster-hall, moze diseases than Newgate. Call a Leete at Byshopsgate, and examine how euerp second house in Shorditch is mainrayned: make a priuate search in Southwarke, and tell me how many Shee-Inmates you finde: naye, goe where you will in the Suburbes, and bring me two Virgins that haue vowed Chastitie, and Ile builde a Runnerie.

Westminster, Westminster, much maydenhead hast thou to answer for at the day of Iudgement, thou hadst a Sanctuarie in thee once, but hast few Saints left in thee now. Surgeons and Apothecaries, you know what I speake is true: for you liue (like Sumners) vpon the sinnes of the people; tell me, is there anye place so lewde as this Ladie London? not a Wench sooner creepes out of the shell, but she is of the Religion. Some wines will

Supplication to the Diuell.

will tolke Handlake in their gardens, and crosse-neighbourhood
with them is counted goodfellowship.

The Court I dare not touch, but surely there (as in the Hea-
uens) be many falling starres, and but one true Diana. *Consuetu-
do peccandi, tollit sensum peccati*, Custome is a Lawe, and Luste
holdes it for a Lawe, to liue without Lawe. Lais that had so ma-
nie Poets to her Louers, could not alwayes preserve her beauty
with their praises. Marble will weare away with much raine:
Gold will rust with moyst keeping: and the richest garments are
subiect to Times Moath-frets, Clitemnestra, that slew her hus-
band to enioye the Adulterer Egistus, and bathed her selfe in
Milke every day to make her yong againe, had a time when shee
was ashamed to viewe her selfe in a looking Glasse, and her
body withered, her minde being greene. The people pointed at
her for a murderer, yong children howled at her as a strum-
pet: shame, misery, sicknesse, beggerie, is the best end of un-
cleannesse.

Lais, Cleopatra, Helen, if our Clymehatch any such, noble
Lord warden of the wittes and iuglers, I commend them with
the rest of our wattleane sisters in Shorditch, the Spittle, South-
wark, Westminster, & Turnbull streets, to the protection of your
Hoortship: hoping you will speedily carrie them to hell, there to
keepe open house for all young Diuels that come, and not let
our ayre bee contaminated with theyr six-pennie damnation any
longer.

Your Diuelships
bounden execrator,

Pierce Pemlesse.

G

A

Pierce Penilesse his

A Supplication said thou this. (quoth the Knight of the penitence) It is the maddest Supplication that euer I sawe; me thinks thou hast handled all the seven deadly sinnes in it, and spared none that exceeds his limits in any of them. It is well done to practise thy witts, but (I beleue) our Lord will run thee little thanks for it.

The worse for me (quoth I) if my destine be such, to lose my labour euery where, but I meane to take my chance be it good or bad. Well, hast thou any more that thou wouldest haue mee to doo (quoth he:) Daely one sute (quoth I) which is this, that with opportunitie so conuenientlie serues, you would acquaint mee with the state of your infernall regiment: and what that hel is, where your Lord holdes his throne; whether a world like this, which spiritues like outlawes doo inhabit, who being banished from heauen, as they are from their Country, enuy that any shall bee more happy than they: and therefore seeke all meanes possible that Wit or Arte may inuent, to make other men as wretched as themselves: or, whether it be place of horror, drench, and darkness, where men see meate, but can get none, or are euery churche and ready to starue for drinke, yet haue not the power to taste the coole streames that runne hard at their feet: where (*permutata vicissitudine*) one ghost torments another by turnes, and he that all his life time was a great fornicator, hath all the diseases of lust continually hanging vpon him, and is constrained (the more to augment his misery) to haue congresse euery heure with haggas and olde witches: and he that was a great drunkard here on earth, hath his penance assigned him, to carouse himselfe drunke with dishwash and Minner, and surfet foure times a day, with lower Ale and small Beere: as so of the rest, as the vsurer to swallow moulten gold, the glutton to eat nothing but toades, and the Murderer to bee still stabbd with daggers, but neuer die: or whether (as some pharcasticall reapers of philosophie will needes perswade vs) hell is nothing but error, and that none but fooles and Idiotes and Machinical men that haue no learning shall be damned: of these doubts if you will resolve me, I shall thinke my selfe to haue profited greatly by your company.

A Or hearing me so inquisitive in matters aboue humane capacite,

Supplication to the Diuell.

capacity, entertained my greedie humour with this answer. Poets and Philosophers that take a pride in inuenting newe opinions, haue sought to renoune their wittes, by hunting after strange conceits of heauen and hell; all generally agreeing, that such places there are, but how inhabited, by whom gouerned, or what beides them that are transported to the one or other, not two of them iumpe in one tale. We that to our terror and grieue do know their dotage by our sufferings, reioyce to thinke how these sillie fyes play with the fire that must burne them.

But leauing them to the Laborynth of their sond curiosities, Shall I tell thee in a word what Hell is? It is a place where the foules of vntemperate men and silliners of all sorts, are detained and imprisoned till the generall Rectification, kept and possessed chiefly by spirites, who lye like Souldiours in Garrison, ready to be sent about any seruice into the world, whensoever Lucifer their Lieutenant Generall pleaseth. For the situation of it in respect of heauen, I can no better compare it than to *Callis* and *Douer*: for as a man standing vpon *Callis* Sands may see men walking on *Douer* Clyffes, so easily may you discerne Heauen from the farthest part of hell, and behold the melodie and motions of the Angels and Spirites there resident, in such perfect manner, as if you were amongst them; which how it worketh in the mindes and soules of them that haue no power to apprehend such felicity, it is not for me to intimate, because it is prejudiciall to our Monarchie.

I would bee sorrie (quoth I) to importune you in any matter of secrecie: yet this I desire, if it might bee done without offence, that you would satisfie me in full sort and according to truth, what the Diuell is whome you serue: as also howe hee began, and howe farre his power and authoritie extends?

Perfie, beleene me thou shynest me very neere in this latter demaund, which concerneth vs more deeply than the former, and may worke vs more damage than thou art aware of: yet in hope thou wylt conceale what I tell thee, I will laye open our whole estate plainly and simply vnto thee as it is: but first I will begin with the opinions of former times, and so haſten forwarde

Pierce Penilesse his

to that *manifesto verum* that thou seekest. Some men there be that building too much upon reason, perswade themselves, that there are no Diuels at all; but that this word *Damon*, is such another morall of mischiefe, as the Poets *Dame Fortune* is of mishap: for as vnder the fiction of this blinde Goddess we aspeere at the folly of Princes and great men in disposing of honours, that oftentimes preferre fooles and disgrace wise men, and alter their fauours in turning of an eye, as *Fortune* turnes her wheele: so vnder the person of this olde Guathonicall companion called the Diuell, we shew all subtiltie masking vnder the name of simplicitie, all painted holmes deuouring widowes houses, all gray headed foxes clad in sheepes garments; so that the Diuell (as they make it) is onely a pestilent humour in a man, of pleasure, profit, or policie, that violently carries him away to vauentie, villanie, or monstrous hypocrisie: vnder vauentie I comprehend not onely all vaine Arts and studies whatsoever, but also dishonourable prodigalitie, vntemperate beryery, and that hateful sinne of selfe-loue, which is so common amongst vs: vnder villanie I comprehend murder, treason, theft, counsaige, cut-throat couetise, and such like: lastly, vnder hypocrisie, all Machauilisme, puritanisme, and outward gloosing with a mans enemy, and protesting friendship to him that I hate, and meane to harme: all vnder-hand cloaking of bad actions with Common-wealth pretences: and finally all Italianate conueyances, as to kill a man, and then mourne for him, *quasi vero* it was not by my consent, to be a slaue to him that hath mist me, and kisse his feet for opportunitie of reuenge, to be seuerer in punishing offenders, that none might haue the benefite of such meanes but my selfe, to vse men for my purpose and then cast them off, to seeke his destruction that knowes my secrets: and such as I haue imployed in any murder or stragem, to set them priuie together by the eares, to stab each other mutually, for feare of bewraying me: or if that faile, to hire them to humor one another in such courses, as may bring them both to the gallows. These and a thousand more such sleights hath hypocrisie learned by traualing Strange Countries. I will not say she puts them in practise here in *England*, although there be as many false brethren and crafty knaues here

Supplication to the Diuell.

amongst vs, as in any place: witness the poore Miller of Cambridge, that hauing no roome for his hen-loft, but the Tessel of his bed, and it was not possible for any hungry Poultrers to come there, but they must stande vpon the one side of it, and so not steale them but with great hazard; had in one night notwithstanding (when hee and his wife were a sleeping) all the whole progenie of their Pultery taken away, and neither of them heard any stirring: it is an odder trick, but what of that, we must not stand vpon it, for wee haue graver matters in hand, then the stealing of Hennes. Hypocrisie I remember was our Text, which was one of the chiefe morall Diuels our late Doctors affirme to be most busie in these daies, and busie it is in truethe more than any Bee that I know: nowe you talke of a Bee, Ile tell you a tale of a Bettle-doze.

The Beare on a time being chiefe BurgoMASTER of all the Beasts vnder the Lyon, gan thinke with himselfe how hee might surfet in pleasure, or best husband his Authoritie to enlarge his delight and contentment. With that hee beganne to pry and to smell through every corner of the Forrest for praye, to haue a thousande imagynations with himselfe what daintie morsell he was master of, and yet had not tasted: whole Herds of sheepe had hee deuoured, and was not satisfied: fat Oxen, Hayfers, Swine, Calues, and yong kiddes, were his ordinary by-ands: hee longed for Horse-flesh, and went presently to a medowe, where a fat Cammell was grazing, whom fearing to encounter with force because he was a huge beast and well shod, he thought to betray vnder the colour of demanding homage, hoping that as he should stoope to doo him truage, he might seaze vpon his throat and stille him before he should be able to recouer himselfe from his false embrace; but therein he was deceiued: for comming vnto this stately Beast with this imperious message, in stead of doing homage vnto him, he liued vp one of his hindmost heeles, and stroake him such a blowe on the forehead that hee overthrew him. Thereat not a little mou'd and enrag'd, that he should be so dishonored by his inferior as he thought, he consulted with the Ape how he might be reuenged.

The Ape abhorring him by nature, because he ouer-lackt

Pierce Penilesse his

him so Lorde, and was by so many degrees greater than he was, advised him to digge a pit with his pawes right in the way where this big bearded Gentleman should passe; that so stumbling and falling in, he might lightlie slip on his back, and blinde him, and then he come and seaze on him at his pleasure. No sooner was this perswaded, than performed: for enue that is neuer idle, could not sleepe in his watch, or ouer-slip the least opportunitie, till hee had leene the confusion of his enemy. Alas goodly Creature, that thou mightest no longer liue. What auaileth thy gentleness, thy prowesse, or the plentiful pasture; wherein thou wert fed: since malice triumphs ouer all thou commaundest? Well may the Hyle rise vp in armes, and the Affe Bray at the Authours of thy death: yet shall their furie be fatal to themselves, before it take hold on these Traitors. What needeth more words: the deuourer feedes on his captiue, and is gorged with bloud. But as avarice and crueltie are euermore thirstie, so far'd it with this hungrye Usurper: for hauing sleight his ambition with this treacherous conquest, he past a long through a groue, where a Heerd of Deare were a ranging: whom when he had stedfastly surcuyed from the fattest to the leanest, he singled out one of the fairest of the company, with whom he meant to close by his stomack in stead of cheese: but because the Wood-men were euer stirring thereabout, and it was not possible for one of his to ace. to commit such outrage vndercried, and that if he were espyed, his life were in perill: though not with the Lyon, whose eyes he could blinde as hee list, yet with the lesser sort of the brutish Comminaltie, whome no flatterie might pacifie. Therefore he determined sylle and priuillie to poyson the streame, where this woldy Foxrester wonted to drinke; and as he determined, so he did: whereby it fell out, that when the Sunne was ascended to his height, and all the noble Citizens of the Wood betooke them to their Laire, this youthful Lorde of the Lawnds, all faine and malcontent (as prophesying his neere approaching mishap by his languishing) with a lazie wallowing pace, sloped aside from the rest of his fellowship, and betooke him all carelesse to the corrupted fountaine that was prepared for his Funerall.

Ah, woe is me, this poyson is pitilesse. What neede I saye more, since you know it is death with whome it encounters. And
yet

Supplication to his Diuinitie.

yet cannot all this expense of life, let a portion to insatiable
Further: but still it hath some Anguile to worke vpon, and o-
uer-calls all opposite prosperitie, that may any waye shadow his
glozie.

Too long it were to rehearse all the practises of this squalid
blood-hunter, how he assailed the Anicorne as he slept in his den,
and tore the heart out of his breast ere he could awake: how hee
made the lesser beasts lye in waye one for the other, and the
Crocodile to coape with the Basiliske, that when they had ex-
changeably weakened each other, he might come and insult o-
uer them both as her list. But these were lesser matters, which
daily vse had worne out of mens mouthes, and he himselfe had so
customable practised, that often exercise had quite abrogated the
opinion of sinne, and impudencie throughlie confirmed an vndaun-
ted defiance of vertue in his face. Yet newfangled lust, that in
time is wearie of welfare, and will bee as soone cloyed with too
much ease and delicacie, as pouertie with labour and scarcitie, at
length brought him out of loue with this greedy bestiall humours
and now hee affected a milder varietie in his dyet: hee had be-
thought him what a pleasant thing it was to eate nothing but
honey another while, and what great store of it there was in that
Countrey.

Nowe did hee cast in his head, that if hee might bring the
Ipsu bandmen of the soyle in opinion, that they might buye ho-
ney cheaper, than beeing at such charges in keeping of Bees,
or that those Bees which they kept, were most of them Drones,
and what should such idle Drones doe with such stately hyues,
or lye sucking at such precious honny-combes; that if they
were tooke awaye from them, and distributed equally abroad,
they would releue a great many of painfull labourers that had
neede of them, and would continually lye seruiceable at theys
commaund, if they might enjoy such a benefite. Aye more, let
them giue Waspes but onely the waie, and dispose of the honey
as they thinke good, and they shall humme and buzze a thou-
sand times louder than they, and haue the hie fuller at the peares
ende (with young ones I meane) than the Bees are wont in
ten yeere.

To broach this deuice, the Foxe was addrest like a shepheards
dogge,

Pierce Penilene mis

dogge, and promise to haue his Patent sealed, to be the Kings
Poulterer for euer, if he could bring it to passe. Faith, quoth he,
and Ile put it in a venter, let it hap how it wil With that he grew
in league with an old Camelion that could put on all shapes, and
imitate any colour, as occasion serued, and him he addrest some-
time like an Ape to make sport, and then like a Crocodile to weep,
sometime like a Serpent to sting, and by and by like a Spancell
to saue, that with these sundrie formes, (applyde to mens va-
riable humors) he might perswade the world he ment as he spake,
and onely intended their good, when he thought nothing lesse. In
this disguise, these two deceiuers went vp and downe, and did
much harme vnder the habite of Simplicie, making the pooze
silly Swaines beleue they were cunning Physicians, and well
seene in all Cures, that they could heale any maladie, though ne-
uer so dangerous, and restore a man to life that had bene dead
two daies. onely by breathing vpon him: about all things they per-
swaded them, that the honny that their Bees brought forth, was
poysonous and corrupt, by reason that those floures and herbes,
out of which it was gathered and exhaled, were subiect to the in-
fection of euery Spider and venomous Canker, and not a loath-
some Toade (how detestable soeuer) but repose himselfe vnder
theyr shadow, and lay sucking at their roots continually: whereas
in other Countries, no noisome or poysonous creature might liue,
by reason of the imputed goodnes of the Soyle, or carefull dili-
gence of the Gardners about ours. as for example, Scotland,
Denmarke, and some more pure partes of the seauenteene Pro-
uinces.

These perswasions made the good honest Husbandmen to
pause, and mistrust their owne wits very much, in nourishing such
dangerous Animals, but yet I know not how antiquitie and cu-
stome so ouer-ruled their feare, that none would resolve to aban-
don them on the sodaine, till they sawe a further inconuenience:
whereby my two cunning Philosophers were driuen to studie
Galen anew, and seeke out splenatiue simples, to purge their po-
pular Patients of the opinion of their olde Traditions and Cu-
stomes: which howe they wrought with the most parte that had
least wit, it were a world to tell. For now nothing was Canonicall
but what they spake, no man would conuerse with his wife, but
first

SUPPLICATION TO THE DUCHEL.

first askt their aduise, nor pare his nails, nor cut his beard, loth to
out their prescription: so senceles, so wavering is the light un-
constant multitude, that will dounce after euery mans pipe;
and sooner prefer a blind harper that can squeake out a new
hothe-pipe, than Alcinous or Apollos vartette, that imitates
the right straines of the Dorian melodie. I speake this to am-
plifie the nouell folly of the hedlong vulgar, that making their
eyes and eares vassalles to the legerdemaine of these iugling
pountbanks, are presentlie dyaune to contemne Art and expe-
rience in comparison of the ignorance of a number of audaci-
ous idiots. The Fox can tell a faire tale, and coners all his kna-
uerie vnder conscience, and the Camellion can addresse himself
like an Angell whensoever he is disposed to worke mischief by
miracles: but yet in the end their secret dysits are laide open,
and Linceus eyes that see through stone walles, haue made a
passage into the close couerture of their hypocrisie.

For one daie, as these two Denisers were plotting by them-
selues how to dyaune all the Bees from their Honny combs, by
putting wormwood in their hyues, and strewing Henbane and
Rue in euery place where they resort: a Flye that past by, and
heard all their talke, stomaking the Foxe of olde, for that he had
murdered so many of his kindred with his flail-drawing tail, went
presentlie and burd in Linceus eares the whole purport of their
malice, who stoking his hundred eyes at these vnerpected ty-
dings, gan persue them wheresoever they went, and trace their
intents as they proceeded into action, so that ere half their baits
were cast forth, they were apprehended and imprisoned, and all
their whole counsaile detected. But long ere this, the Beare im-
patient of delates and consumed with an inward greife in him-
selfe, that hee might not haue his will of a fat Wynd that outran
him, he went into the woods all melancholie, and there died for
pure anger: leauing the Foxe and the Camellion to the desinie
of their desert, and mercie of their Judges. How they scape I
know not, but some saie they were hanged, and so toke leaue
them.

How likest thou of my tale friend Persie? Hane I not descri-
bed a right earthy Duche unto thee, in the discourse of this blaw-
dy minded Beare? D: canst thou not attract the true image of

H

Hypocrisie

hypocrisie, vnder the description of the Fox and the Camellione
 Yes verie well (quoth I) but I would gladly haue you returne
 to your first subiect, since you haue moued doubts in my mind,
 which you haue not yet discouered.

Of the sundrie opinions of the Diuill thou meanest, and them
 that imagin him to haue no existence, of which sort are they that
 first inuented the prouerbe, *Homo homini Dæmon*: meaning there-
 by, that that power which we call the Diuill, and the ministering
 Spirits belonging to him and to his kingdom, are tales and fa-
 bles, and mere bugge-bearers to scarre votes: and that there is
 no such essence at all, but only it is a terme of large content, de-
 scribing the rancor, grudge, and bad dealing of one man toward
 another: as namely, when one friend talkes with another sub-
 tilly, and seeks to diue into his commoditie, that he may depriue
 him of it craftelie: when the sonne seeks the death of the father,
 that he maye be infeoffed in his welth: and the stepdame goes a-
 bout to make awaie her sonne in law, that her children may in-
 herit: when brothers fall at iarres for portions, and shall by open
 murder or p̄sueie conspiracie, attempt the confusion of each o-
 ther, only to ioine house to house, and vnite two likelihoods in
 one: when the seruant shall rob his master, and open put in trust
 start away from their oathes and vowes they care not how.

In such cases and manie more, may one man be said to be a de-
 uell to another, and this is the second opinion. The third is that
 of Plato, who not onely affirmeth that there are diuels, but deu-
 ded them into three sorts, euerie one a degree of dignitie aboue
 the other; the first are those, whose bodies are compact of the pu-
 rest aerie Element, combined with such transparent threads;
 that neither they doe partake so much fire as should make them
 visible to sight, or haue anye such affinitie with the earth, as they
 are able to be prest or toucht: and these he setteth in the highest in-
 comprehensible degree of heauen. The second, he maketh those
 whom Apuleius doth call reasonable creatures, passinge in mind
 and eternall in time, being those Apostata spirits that rebelled
 with Belzebub: whose bodies, before their fall, were bright and
 pure all like to the former: but after their transgression, they
 were obscured with a thick ayrie matter & euer after assigned
 to darkness. The third, he attributes to those men, that by some
 diuine

diuine knowledge or vnderstanding, seeming to aspire aboue mortalitie, are called *Demons*, (that is) Gods: for this word *Demon* contayneth either, and Homer in every place doth vse it, both for that omnipotent power that was before all things, and the euill spirit that leadeth men to error: so doth Syrianus testifie, that Plato was called *Demon*, because he disputed of deepe Common-welth matters, greatly available to the benefite of his Countrey: and also Aristotle because he wrote at large of all things subiect to mouing and sence. Then belike (quoth I) you make this word *Demon*, a capcable name of Gods, of men and of diuels, which is farre distant from the scope of my demand: for I doe onlie inquire of the diuel, as this common appellation of the Diuel, signifieth a malignant spirit, enemie to mankind, and a hater of God and all goodnes. Those are the second kinde said he, vsuallie termed detractors or accusers that are in knowledge infinit, insomuch as by the quicknes of their wits, and agreeable mirtures of the Elements, they so comprehend those seminarie vertues to men vnknown, that those things which in course of time, or by growing degrees nature of it selfe can effect. They by their Art and skill in hastening the works of nature, can contriue and compass in a moment, as the Magicians of Pharao, who wheras nature not without some interposition of time, and ordinarie causes of conception brings forth frogs, serpents, or any liuing thing else, they without all such distance of space, or circumscription of season euen in a thought as soon as their Ik. commanded, couered the land of Egypt with this monstrous increase. Of the originall of vs spirits, the scripture most amplie maketh mention, namelie that Lucifer (before his fall) an Archangel, was a clær bodie compact of the purest, and brightest of the aire; but after his fall, he was bailed with a grosser substance, and tooke a new forme of darke and thick ayre, which he still reteineth. Neither did he onlie fall, when he strone with Michael, but drew a number of Angels to his faction; who ioint partakers of his proud reuolt, were likewise partakers of his punishment, and all thrust out of beauen together by one iudgement: who euer since do nothing but wonder about the Earth, and tempt and inforce fraile men to enterprise all wickednesse that maie be, and commit

PIERCE PENITENT HIS

most horrible and abominable things against God. Marvell not that I discover so much of our estate vnto thee: for the scripture hath more than I mention, as S. Peter there he saith that God spared not his Angels that sinned. And in another place where he saith, that they are bound with the chaines of darknes, and throwne headlong into hell: which is not meant of anye locall place in the earth, or vnder the waters: for as Austin affirmeth, we doe inhabit the Region vnder the moone, and haue the thick aire assigned vs as a prison, from whence we maye with small labour cast our nets where we list: yet are we not so at our disposition but that we are still commanded by Lucifer (although we are in number infinite) who retaining that pride wherewith he arrogantly affected the maiestie of God, hath still his ministering Angels about him, whom he impletes in severall charges, to seduce and decelue as him seemeth best: as those spirittes which the Latines call Iouios and Antemeridianos, to speake out of Oracles, and make the people worship them as gods, when they are nothing but deluding Diuels that couet to haue a false Deitie ascribed vnto them, and drawe men vnto their loue by wonders & prodigies, that else would hate them deadlye, if they knewe their maleuolence and enute. Such a monarchizing spirit it was, that said to Christ, If thou wilt fall downe and worship me, I wil giue thee al the kingdoms of the earth: and such a spirit it was that possessed the Libian Sapho, and the Emperour Dioclesian, who thought it the blesseddest thing that might be, to be called God. For the one being wearie of humane honour, and inspired with a supernaturall follie, taught little but that he were capable of speech, to pronounce distinctly *Magnus Deus Sapho*, that is to saie A great God is Sapho: Which words when they had learned readilye to caroll, & were perfect in their note, he let them lie at random, that so dispersing themselves euerie where, they might induce the people to account of him as a God. The other was so arrogant, that he made his subiectes fall prostrate on their faces, and lifting vp their handes to him as to heauen, adore him as omnipotent.

The second kind of Devils which he most impleth, are those Northerne Marcijs, called the spirits of reuenge, & the authors of massacres, and seedsmen of mischief, for they haue com-
mission

Supplication to the Diuell.

indition to incense men to rapines, sacrilege, theft, murder, witch, sorie, and all manner of cruelties, and they commande certain of the Southern spirits (as Naues) to waite vpon them, as also great Arioch, that is termed the spirit of reuenge.

These know how to dissociate the loue of brethren, and to break wedlock bands with such violence, that they may not be vnited, and are predominant in in inie other diuinitieall mutinies: of whom if thou list to heare more, read the 39. of Ecclesiasticus. The Prophet Esay maketh mention of another Spirit sent by God to the Egyptians, to make them strate and wander out of the way, that is to say, the Spirit of lying, which they call Bolychym. The Spirits that entice men to gluttonie and lust, are certaine watry spirits of the West, and certaine Southerne spirits as Nefrach & Ke'en, which for the most part prosecute vnlawfull lones, and cherish all vnnaturall desires: they wander through lakes, fish ponds and fennes, and ouerwhelme ships, cast boates vpon ankers, and drowne men that are swimming: therefore are they counted the most pestilent, troublesome, and guiltfull spirits that are: for by the helpe of Alrynach a Spirite of the West, they will raise stormes, cause earthquakes, whirlwinds, raine, haile or snow in the clearest daie that is: and if euer they appeare to any man, they come in womens apparell. The spirits of the aire will mix themselves with thunder & lightening, and so infect the Climate where they raise any tempest, that suddenly great mortalitie shall ensue to the inhabitants from the infectious vapors which arise from their motions: of such S. Iohn maketh mention in the 9. of the Apocalips: their patron is Mereris, who beareth chiefe rule about the middle time of the daie. The spirits of the fire haue their mansions vnder regions of the Moon, that whatsoener is committed to their charge, they make there execute, as in their proper consistorie, from whence they cannot start. The spirites of the earth keepe for the most part in Forrests and woods, and doe hunters much noiaunce, & sometime in the broad feldes where they lead traucellers out of the right waie, or fright men with deformed apparitions, or make them run mad through excessive melancholic lik Ajax Telamonius, & so proue hurtfull to themselves, and dangerous to others: of this number the chiefe are Saniaab and Achymael spirits of the east,

that haue no power to do anye great harme, by reason of the un-
constancie of their affections. The vnder-earth spirits, are such
as lurke in dens & little cauerns of the earth, and hollow cren-
ses of mountaines, that they make diue into the bowels of the
earth at their pleasure: these dig vntails, and watch treasures,
which they continuallie transport from place to place, that none
should haue vse of them: they raise winds that vomit flames,
and shake the foundation of buildings, they dance in rounds in
pleasant launds, and greene meadowes, with noises of musicke
and minstrelsie, & vanish a waie when anye comes nere them:
they will take vpon them anye similitude but of a woman, and
terrific men in the likenesse of dead mens ghostes in the night
time: and of this qualitie and condition the Necromancers hold
Gaziel, Fegor, and Anarazel, Southern spirits to be. Besides,
there are yet remaining certeine lieng spirits (whoe, although
all bee giuen to lie by nature) yet are they more prone to that
vice, than the rest, being named Pythonists, of whome Apollo
comes to be called Pytheus: they haue a prince as well as other
spirits, of whom mention is made in the 3. booke of kings, when
he saith he will be a lieng spirit in the mouth of all Ahabs pro-
phets: from which those spirits of iniquitie do little differ, which
are called the vessels of wrath, that assist Belial (whom they in-
terpret a spirit without pike or controuler) in all damnable de-
uises and intentions. Plato reports them to be such as first deu-
sed cards and dice, and I am in the mind, that the Spoke was
of the same order, that sound out the vse of Gunpowder, and the
engins of war thereto belonging. Those that write of these mat-
ters, call this Belial Chodar of the East, that hath all witches &
conjurors spirits vnder his iurisdiction, & giues them leaue to
helpe Jugglers in their tricks, & Simon Magus to do miracles;
alwaies provided they bring a soule home to their Master for
his hire. Yet are not these all, for there are spirits called spies &
tale carriers, obedient to Ascaroth, whom the Grecks call Dai-
mona, and S. Iohn *The accuser of the brethren*: also tempters, whoe
for their interrupting vs in al our good actions, are cald our euil
Angels. Aboue all thinges they hate the light and reioyce in
darkenesse, disquieting men maliciouslie in the night and some-
times hurt them by pinching them or blasting them as they sleep
but

7
but they are not so much to be dreaded as other spirits, because
if a man speak to them, they flee away and will not abide. Such
a spirit Plinius Secundus telleth of, that used to haunt a goodlie
house in Athens that Athenadorus hired; and such another Suc-
tonius describeth to haue long houered in Lamianus Garden
wher Caligula lay buried, who for because he was onlie couered
with a few cloths, and vncuentlie thrown amongst the weeds,
he meruelouslie disturbed the owners of the garden, & would
not let them rest in their beds, till by his Sisters returned from
banishment, he was taken vp, and intombed solemnly. Pausa-
nias auoucheth (amongst other experiments) that a certain spi-
rit called Zazilus doth feed vpon dead mens corpes, that are not
deeplie interred in the earth as they ought: which to confirme,
there is a wonderfull accident set downe in the Danish history
of Asuitus and Asmundus, who being two famous friends (well
knowne in those parts) vowed one to another, that which of them
two out liued the other, should be buried alue with his friends
that first died. In short spae Asuitus fell sick and yelded to na-
ture, Asmundus compelled by the oath of his friendship, took
none but his horse and his dog with him, and transported the
dead bodie into a vast caue vnder the earth, & there determined
(having viciuallized himselfe for a long time) to finish his daies in
darknesse, and neuer depart from him that he loued so deere.
Thus shut vp and inclosed in the bowels of the earth, it hapened
Ericus K. of Sweucland to passe that waie with his armie not
full two months after, who coming to the tomb of Asuitus, &
suspecting it a place where treasure was hid, caused his Wo-
ners with their spades and mattocks to dig it vp: where vpon
was discovered the lothsome bodie of Asmundus, all to besmea-
red with dead mens filth, & his visage most ugly and fearefull;
which imbued with congeald blood, and caten & torn like a raw
vicer, made him so gaskie to behold, that all the beholders were
afrighted. He seeing himselfe restored to light, and so manie ama-
zed men stand about him, resolved their vncertain perplexity in
these terms. Why stand you astonish't at my vnusual deformati-
ties: when no liuing man conuerseth with the dead, but is thus
disfigured. But other causes haue effected this change in mee:
for I know not what audacious spirit sent by Gorgon from the
deep,

deep, hath not onely most rauenously deuoured my horse & my
dog, but also hath laid his hungry pawes vpon me, and tering
downe my cheekes as you see, hath likewise rent a waie one of
mine eares. Hence is it that my mangled shape seeme so mon-
strous, and my humane image obscured with gore in this wise.
Yet escaped not this fell Harpie from me vnrreued: for as he
assailed me, I caught his head from his shoulders, and sheathed
my sword in his bodie. Haue spirits their visible bodies saide
I, that may be toucht, wounded, or pierst? Beloeue me, I ne-
uer heard that in my life before this. Why quoth he, although
in their proper essence they are creatures incorporeall, yet can
they take on them the induments of anie living bodie: what soe-
uer, & transform themselves into all kind of shapes, whereby they
maie more easilie deceiue our shallow wits and senses. So te-
stifies Barilius that they can put on a material forme when they
list. Socrates affirmeth that his Damon did oftentimes talke
with him, and that he saw him and felt him manie times. But
Marcus Cherroneus (a wonderfull discoverer of Demons) wi-
tesseth, that those bodies which they assume, are distinguished by no
difference of sex, because they are simple, and the discernance of
sex belongs to bodies compound: yet are they flexible, motiue,
and apt for any configuration, but not all of them alike: for the
spirits of the fire and Aire haue this power aboue the rest. The
spirits of the water haue slow bodies resembling birdes & wo-
men, of which kind the Naiades & Nereids are much celebra-
ted amongst Poete. Peruerthelesse, howeuer they are restrai-
ned to their severall similitudes, it is certaine that all of them
desire no forme or figure so muche, as the likenesse of a man,
and do thinke themselves in heauen, when they are insooft in
that hie: therefore I know no other reason but this, that man
is the nearest representation to God, insomuch as the scripture
saith, He made man after his own likenesse and image: and they
affecting by reason of their pride, to be as like God as they may,
contend most seriously to shroud themselves vnder that habit.
But I pray tell me this, whether are there (as Porphyrius hol-
deth) good spirits as well as euill. I saie certeinlie (quoth he)
we are all euill, let Porphyrius, Proclus, Apuleius, or the Plato-
nists dispute to the contrarie as long as they will, which I
will

will confirm to thy capacitie by the names that are euerie wher
 given vs in the Scripture, for the diuell which is the *Summum*
genus to vs all, is called *Diabolus quasi deorsum ruens*, that is to say
 falling downeward, as he that aspiring too high, was throtten
 from the top of felicitie to the lowest pit of despaire: and sathan,
 that is to saie, an Aduersarie, who for the corruption of his ma-
 lice, opposeth himselfe euer against God, whoe is the chiefest
 god. In Iob, Behemoth and Leuiathan, and in the 9. of the
 Apocalips, Apolyon, that is to saie, a Subuerter: bicause the
 foundation of those vertues, which our high Maker hath plan-
 ted in our soules; he undermineth and subuerteth. A serpent
 for his poisoning, a Lyon for his deuouring: a furnace, for that
 by his malice the Elect are tried, who are vessels of wrath and
 saluation. In Esay, a Syren, a Lamia, a Scrich-owle, an Es-
 tridge. In the Psalmes, an Adder, a Basiliske, a Dragon. And
 lastlie, in the Gospell, Mammon, Prince of this world, and the
 Gouernour of darknes: so that by the whole course of condem-
 ning names that are given vs, and no one instance of anie fa-
 vourable tytle bestowed vpon vs, I positiuelie set downe that
 all spirits are euill. Now, whereas the Diuines attribute bri-
 to vs these good and euill spirits, the good to guide vs from euil,
 and the euill to draw vs from goodnesse, they are not called spi-
 rits but Angels, of which sort was Raphaell, the good Angell of
 Tobias, who erlde the euill spirit Asmodius into the desert of
 Aegypt, that he might be the more secure from his temptation.
 Since we haue entred thus far into the diuels commonwealth,
 I beseech you certifie me thus much, whether haue they power
 to hurt granted them from God, or from themselves; can they
 hurt as much as they wil. Not so quoth hee, for although that
 diuels be most mightie spirites, yet can they not hurt but per-
 mittuelie, or by some specciall dispensation: as when a man is
 faine into the state of an out-law, the Law dispenseth with them
 that kill him, & the Prince excludes him from the protection of
 a subiect, so, when a man is a relaps from God and his
 Lawes, God withdraues his prouidence from watching ouer
 him, and authoriseth the deuil as his instrument, to assault him
 and torment him, so that whatsoeuer he dooth, is *Limitata pote-*
state, as one saith: insomuche as a haire cannot fall from our
 heads,

heades, without the will of our heauenlie Father. The Diuell
could not deceiue Achabs prophets til he was licensed by God,
nor exercise his tyranie ouer Iob till he had giuen him commis-
sion, nor enter into the heard of swine til Christ bad them goe.
Therefore need you not feare the diuell any whit as long as you
are in the fauor of God, who raieth him so straight, that except
he let him loose he can do nothing. This man like proportion
which I now retaine, is but a shinge of suffrance granted vnto
me to plague such men as hunt after strife, and are delighted
with variance. It may be so very well, but whether haue you
that skill to foretell thinges to come, that is ascribed vnto you?
We haue (quoth he) sometimes, not that we are priuate to the e-
ternall counsell of god, but for that by the sense of our ayrie bo-
dies we haue a more refined faculty of foreseeing, than men pos-
sibly can haue, that are chained to such heauie earthlie moulder;
or else for that by the incomparable pernicious of those ayrie bo-
dies, we not onely out-strip the swiftness of men, beasts & birds,
whereby we may be able to attain to the knowledge of thinges
sooner, than those that by the dulnes of their earthlie sense come
a great waie behind vs. Her vnto may we adioine our long ex-
perience in the course of thinges from the beginning of the world,
which men want and therefore cannot haue that deepe coniecture
that we haue. For is our knowledge any more than coniecture:
for prescience only belongeth to God, & that gesse that we haue,
proceedeth from the compared disposition of heauenly and earth-
lie bodie, by whose long obserued temperature, we do diuine
manie times, as it happens, & therefore do we take vpon vs to
prophecy, that we may purchase estimation to our names, and
brynge men in admiration with that we doo, and so be counted
for Gods. The myracles wee work, are partly contriued by il-
lusion, and partly assisted by that supernatural skil we haue in
the experience of nature aboue all other Creatures. But a-
gainst these illusions of your subtiltie & vain terrores you insist,
what is our chiefe refuge? I shall be accounted a scollie Diuell
anon, if I bewray the secretes of our kingdome, as I haue be-
gun: yet speak I no more than learned Clarkes haue written,
and as much as they haue set downe will I shew thee. Origin in
his treatise against Celsus saith, there is nothing better for him
that

Supplication to the Diuell.

that is bered with spirites, then the naming of Iesu, the true God, for he auoucheth, he hath seene diuers driven out of mens bodies by that means. Athanasius in his booke *De varijs questionibus* saith, The presentest remedie againste the inuasion of euill spirits, is the beginning of the 67. Psalm, *Exurgat Deus, & dissipentur inimici eius*. Cyprian counsels men to aduise spirites only by the name of the true God. Some hold that fire is a preseruatiue for this purpose, because when any spirit appeareth, the lights by little and little, go out as it were of their own accord, and the tapers are by degrees ertinguisht. Others by inuocating vpon God, by the name of *Vehiculum ignis superioris*, and often rehearsing the Articles of our faith. A third sort are perswaded that the brandishing of swords is good for this purpose, because Homer saith, that Vlisies sacrificing to his mother, waisted his sword in the aire to chase the spirits from the blood of the sacrifice. And Sybylla conducting Aeneas to hell begins his charmes in this sort. *Procul, O procul, este prophani:*

Tuque in vande viam, vaginaque eripe ferrum.

Philostratus reporteth that he and his companions meeting that Diuell which Artistes entitle Apolonius as they came one night from banquetting, with such terms as he is curst in holy writ, they made him run a wate howling. Wante in this case extoll perfume of *Calamentum paonia*, *Menta palma Christi*, and *Asp-pius*. A number prefer the carping of red Corall about them, or of *Arthemisia hypericon*, *Ruta verbena*: and to this effect manie doe vse the syngling of keyes, the sound of the harp, and the clashing of armes. Some of old time put great superstition in characters, curiously engraued in their Pentagonon, but they are all vaine, & will doe no good, if they be otherwise vled than as signes of couenant betwene the diuell and them. For doe I affirme al the rest to bee vnfalible prescriptions, though sometime they haue their vse: but that the onelie assured way to resist their attempts is prayer and faith, gainst which all the diuels in hell cannot preuaile. Inough gentle spirit I will importune thee no further, but commit this Supplication to thy care: which if thou deliuer accordinglie, thou shalt at thy returne haue more of my custome: for by that time I will haue finished certain letters to diuers Orators & Poets, disperced in your dominions. That

as occasion shal serue, but nowe I must take leaue of you, for it is Terme time, and I haue some busines. A Gentleman (a friend of mine that I neuer saw before) states for me, and is like to be vndoone if I come not in to beare witnesse on his side: wherefore *Bezilex manus*, till our next meeting.

Gentle Reader *tandem aliquando*, I am at leasure to talke to thee. I dare say, thou hast cald me a hundred times dolt for this senseles discourse: it is no matter, thou dost but as I haue doone by a number in my dayes. For who can abide a scuryle pedling Poet to plucke a man by the sleue at euerie third step in Paules Churchyard, & when he comes in to scruey his wares, theres nothing but purgations and vomits wrapt vppe in wast paper. If were verie good the dog whipper in Paules would haue a care of this in his vnsauery visitation euerie Saturday: for it is dangerous for such of the Quænes liedge people, as shall take a biewe of them fasting.

Take to it you Booksellers and Stationers, and let not your shops be infected with any such gosse gyblets or stinking garbidge, as the Zygs of newsmongers, and especiallie such of you as frequent Westminster hall, let them be circumspect what dunghill papers they bring thither: for one bad pamphlet is enough to raise a damp that may poison a whole Terme, or at the least a number of poore Clyents that haue no money to preuent ill aire by breaking their fasts ere they come thither. Not a base Inck-dropper or scuryle plodder at *Nouerint*, but nailes his asses eares on euerie post and comes off with long *Circum- quaque* to the Gentleman Readers, yea the most excrementous dishlickers of learning are growne so valiant in impudencie, that now they set vp their faces (like Turks) of gray paper to be spet at for siluer games in *Finburie* fields. Whilst I am thus talking, me thinks I heare one say, What a fop is this he entitles his booke A Supplication to the Diuell, and doth nothing but raille on ideots, and tels a storie of the nature of Spirits. Haue patience good sir, and weele come to you by and by. Is it my Title you find fault with? Why, haue you not seen a Towne surnamed by the principall house in the towne, or a Nobleman deriue his Baronie from a little village where he hath least land? So saith it by me in chysling of my Booke.

But

Supplication to the Diuell.

But some will object, whereto tends this discourse of diuels, or how is it induced? Forsooth, if thou wilt needs know my reason, this it is. I bring Pierce Penilesse to question with the diuel, as a young nouice would talke with a great traueller: who carrying an Englishmans appetite to enquire of newes, will be sure to make what vse of him he maie, and not leaue any thing unaskt, that he can resolue him of. If then the diuell be tedious in discoursing, impute it to Pierce Penilesse, that was importunate in demanding; or if I haue not made him so secret or subtil in his Art, as Diuels are twont, let that of Lactantius be mine excuse *lib. 2. chap. 16. de Originis errore*, where he saith, the diuels haue no power to lie to a iust manne and if they aduise them by the maiestie of the high God, they will not onlie confesse themselves to be Diuels, but also tell their names as they are. *Dens bone*, what a vaine am I fallen into: what, an Epistle to the Readers in the end of thy booke? Out vpon thee for an arrent blocke, where learndst thou that witt? O sir, holde your peace: a fellow neuer comes to his answer before the offence be committed. Wherfore if I in the beginning of my Book should haue come off with a long Apologie to excuse my selfe, it were all one, as if a thiefe going to steale a horse, should denie by the waie as he went, what to spake when he came at the gallows. Here is a crosse waie, and I thinke it good heere to part. Farewell, farewell, good Parenthesis, and commend me to Ladie Vanitie thy mistres. Now Pierce peniles if for a parting blow thou hast ere a tricke in thy budget more then ordinarie bee not daintie of it, for a good Patron will pay for all. I where is he? *Promissis quilibet diues esse Potest*. But cap and thanks is all our Courtiers payment: wherfore I would counsell my friends to be more considerate in their Dedications, and not cast away so many months labour on a clown that knowes not how to vse a Scholer: for what reason haue I to bestow any witt on him, that wil bestow none of his wealth vpon me. Alas, it is easie for a goodlie tall fellow that shineth in his fillies, to come and out face a poore simple Pedant in a thred bare cloake, and tell him his booke is pretty, but at this time he is not prouided for him: marrie about twoe or thre daies hence if he come that waie, his Page shall say he is not within, or else he is so busie with my L. How-call-ye-him, and my L. What-call-ye-him, that

Pierce Peulelle his

be they not be spoken withall. These are the common courses
of the world, which euerie man privatlie murmurs at but none
dares openlie vpbraid, because all Artists for the most part are
base minded and like the Indians, that haue store of gold & preti-
ous stones at command, yet are ignorant of their value, & ther-
fore let the Spaniards, the Englishmen, and euerie one loade
their ships without molestation. So they enioying and posses-
sing the puritie of knowledge (a treasure farre richer than the
Indian Mines) let euerie proude Thraße be partaker of their
perfections, repaieing them no profit: and gylde himselte with
the titles they giue him, when he wil scarce retorne them a good
word for their laboz: giue an Ape but a nut, & he will look your
head for it; or a dog a bone, and hele wag his taile: but giue me
one of my yong Maisters a booke, and he will put of his hat &
blush, and so go his waie: yes, now I remember me I lie, for
I know him that had thanks for three yeares worke, and a gen-
tleman that bestowed much cost in refining of musicke, and had
scarce fiddlers wages for his laboz. We want an Arcine here
among vs, that might strip these golden asses out of their gale
trappings, and after he had ridden them to death with railing,
leauie them on the dunghill for carion. But I will write to his
ghost by my carrier, and I hope hele repaire his whip, and vse
it against our English Peacocks, that painting themselues
with church spoils, like mightie mens sepulchers, haue nothing
but Atheisme, schisme, hypocrisie, & bainglozy, like rotten bones
lie lurking within them. O how my soule abhors these buck-
ram giants, that hauing an outward face of honoz set vppen
them by flatters and parasites, haue their inward thoughtes
stuffed with strawe and feathers, if they were narrowlie sifted.
Far be it bright stars of Nobilitie, and glistering attendants on
the true Diana, that this my speech shoulde be anie way inuiri-
ous to your glorious magnificence: for in you liue those sparks
of Augustus liberalitie, that neuer sent anie a waie emptie: &
Science seauenfold throne well nigh ruined by ryot and ana-
rice, is mightilie supported by your plentiful larges, which ma-
kes Poets to sing such goodlie himnes of your praise, as no en-
uious posteritie may forget. But from generall fame, let me
digres to my priuate experience, and with a song vnworthy to
name

name a name of such worthines, affectionatellie emblazon to the
eyes that wonder, the matchlesse image of Honor, and magni-
ficent rewarder of vertue, Ioues Eagle-borne Ganimed, thyce
noble Amyntas. In whose high spirit, such a Deitie of wisdom
appeareth, that if Homer were to write his *Odissea* new (where
vnder the person of Vlysses he describeth a singular man of per-
fection, in whom all ornaments both of peace and warre are as-
sembled in the height of their excellence he need no other instance
to augment his conceipt, than the rare carriage of his honora-
ble minde. Manye writers and good wits, are giuen to com-
mend their patrons and Benefactors, some for prowesse, some
for policie, others for the glorie of their Ancestrie and exceeding
bountie and liberalitie: but if my vnable pen should euer enter-
prise such a continuat task of praise, I woulde embowell a
number of those wind puff bladders, and disfigure their bald
pates of the periwigs Poets haue lent them, that so I might
restore glorie to his right inheritance, and these stoln Titles to
their true owners: which if it woulde so fall out, (as time maye
worke all thinges) the aspiring nettles with their shade toppes
shal no longer ouer-dreep the best hearbs, or keep them from the
smiling aspect of the Sunn, that line & shue by his comfortable
beames, none but Desert should sit in Iames grace, none but
Hector be remembred in the chronicles of Prowesse, none but
thou most curteous Amyntas be the second misteall argument
of the knight of the Red-crosse.

Oh decus atque ens gloria summa tui.

And here (heauenlie Spencer) I am most highlie to accuse thee
of forgetfulnes, that in that honourable catalogue of our En-
glish Heroes, which insueth the conclusion of thy famous Faerie
Queene, thou wouldest let so speciall a pillar of Nobilitie passe
unsaluted. The vertie thought of his far deriued descent, & extra-
ordinarie parts wherewith he astonisheth the world, and drawes
all harts to his loue, woulde haue inspired thy forewearer Muse
with new furie to procede to the next triumphs of thy statelie
Goddesse, but as I in fauor of so rate a scholler, suppose with
this counsell he refrained his mention in this first part, that he
might with full saile proceed to his due commendations in the
second. Of this occasion long since I happened to frame a son-
net

net which being wholie intended to the reuerence of this renowned Lord, (to whom I owe all the vtmost powers of my loue and dutie) I meante here for variety of stile to insert.

Persuing yesternight with idle eyes,
The Fairy Singers stately tuned verse:
And viewing after Chap-mens wonted guise,
What strange contents the title did rehearse.
I streight leapt ouer to the latter end,
Where like the queint Comedians of our time,
That when their Play is doone do fall to ryme,
I found short lines, to sundry Nobles pend.
Whom he as speciall Mirrours singled fourth,
To be the Patrons of his Poetry;
I read them all, and reuerenc t their worth,
Yet wondred he left out thy memory.
But therefore gest I he suppress thy name,
Because few words might not cōprise thy fame.

Beare with me gentle Poet, though I conceine not a right
of thy purpose, or be too inquisitiue into the intent of thy obliu-
on: for how euer my conecture may misse the cushion, yet shal
my speech sauour of friendship, though it be not alied to iudge-
ment.

Tantum hoc melior, in this short digression, to acquaint our
countreymen that liue out of the Echo of the Court, with a
common knowledge of his inualluable vertues, and shew my
selfe thankfull (in some part) for benefits receiued: which since
words may not counteruaile, that are the vsuall lip labour of
euerie idle discourser, I conclude with that of Ouid:

*Accipe per longos tibi qui deseruiat annos,
Accipe qui pura nouis amare fide.*

And if my zeale and duty (though all to meane to please) may
by any industrie, be reformed to your gracious liking, I submit
the simplicitie of my indenours to your service, which is, all
my performance may profer, or my abilitie performe.

*Præbeat Alcinoi poma benignus ager,
Officium pauper numeret studiumque fidemque.*

And so I breake off this endlesse argument of speech abrupt-
lie.

FINIS.

Collated for
5/26/34 RA

